

Sketch-Book N° 10
From December 20 1837
To February 12th 1838

Part 1

Written on old Field Books
kept in pencil

The 4 parts of this N° 10
extend from December 20
1837 to June 4 1838

Dr Griffin;s sermon 53 or
rather his insanity

Col Hawks Journal from
fort Massachusetts to Canada
1746- page 46

December 1837.

Thursday 21. Fair and moderate for winter; the icy roads render sleighing good on smooth ground

Friday 22 Cold morn and fair day & cold throughout.

By the last account from Canada it appears that the insurrection is subsiding in both provinces, and high rewards are offered for the leaders who have escaped. In lower Canada a small skirmish has occurred at St Armands, between a party of insurgents who had procured arms & two swords at Swanton in Vermont, and a party of loyal militia, or Volunteers, ~~and~~ the former defeated and driven back with the loss of the swords; and the insurgent commander Bouchette taken and shot. The insurgents were ambuscaded by the royalists & a few killed, wounded & captured, their number stated from 40 to 96, and the royalists several hundreds. This happened on the 6th instant. A Report is in circulation that a battle between the insurgents & royalists had taken place at the Lake of Two Mountains northerly of Montreal
in

in which the former were successful. This is very improbable under present circumstances; nor does there appear the least chance of success on the part of the insurgents. The leaders probably founded their expectations on our example in the revolution, without reflecting that we were then 3,000,000 souls spread over a wide extent of Country, with many harbors, and an extended sea coast, from which we could hold intercourse with foreign nations, and procure arms and munitions of war.

Rail Road

An accident lately occurred on the Portsmouth and Roanoke Rail Road causing the death of two persons & wounding several others. An iron rail had started from the timber to which it was nailed & projected up, so as to stop the cars. I had apprehended this might occur unless the rails were firmly bolted or the spikes carefully clinched to prevent them working loose. Too much pains cannot be bestowed on the construction of these ways; and with all care accidents will ^{occur}; where there is great volocity in heavy bodies, there must be great momenta and danger- something will give way. The race for constructing

railroads, I think, will abate, except on our great ways, and here, perhaps, horse-power will be found preferable to steam engines. We are attempting too great velocity- such as is not required for advantageous business. A stride of 50 miles per day with heavy loads, ought to suffice. Mail & passenger cars which proceed with their present velocities, must look for accidents.

Saturday 23. Cold and fair morning with sunshine through the day.

Winter Solstice

The sun has now reached the winter solstice and gives us but a short diurnal visit of a few minutes over 9 hours, at the small altitude at noon of about 24 degrees; and to compensate for the obliquity of his rays we are compelled to pile the wood upon our fires, and bundle up in our winter clothes. How inviting now appears the temperate regions of the southern hemisphere in the midst of summer, glowing with all the beauties of vegetation, and the numerous animal kingdom^{oms} in full vigor and activity. What an enviable race are our birds
of

of passage; always blest with the
 warm rays of the sun; and fed and
 clothed by ^{the} never failing hand of na-
 ture, they seem to be particularly favored.
 But men fixed to place, has to endure the
 vicissitudes of all seasons, to provide
 his food, his cloths his fuel, his dwelling
 yet he has no cause to complain
 of his lot. If he has not the feathers of
 birds, nor the fir of bears, reasoning fac-
 ulties ^{are} given him by his Creator, in the
^{due} exercise of which he learns arts and
 sciences which enable him to obtain
 from the elements nature has fur-
 nished, all that is requisite for his
 comfortable subsistence. Providence,
 though bountiful, gives not to man
 that which he can procure by his own
 exertions. Man ploughs, sows, manures
 and husbands his lands, and God
 gives the increase; he collects materi-
 als ^{for} houses, barns &c, shapes them
 by geometrical rules and erects con-
 venient edifices, and God gives them
 stability; he gathers and stores
 his crops and by a variety of processes
 converts them to food and raiment,
 for which God has fitted them; and there

by a proper use of the elementary substances provided, man is enabled by his industry to supply his wants. If in any part of the Globe is found incapable of supplying these wants by his industry, it is with in the frigid zones. Man it is true subsist there, but with precarious support, even with all his exertions; and it is question with me, whether nature intended them for the residence of man. So long as more congenial regions are to be found, and man is free to contrive means for his comfort, it would appear that he departs from the dictates of nature in selecting a residence amidst snow and ice, where his warmth cannot be supplied. Were he to take up his residence upon the crater of a volcano which periodically pours out its burning lava, could he say God placed lava there? Or, selecting a barren rock in mid ocean, could he say he had starved from the neglect of Providence to feed him? Such language from an intelligent being is inadmissible. Instinct is given to beasts; man has received reasoning powers, and in this consists their difference. Or as a plain but

sensible farmer once expressed himself on seeing the ready movements of a horse at his labor, "The horse knows, but does not know that he knows, but man knows, and he knows that he knows."- A pretty nice metaphysical distinction.

Canada Insurgents

A Report this afternoon by a Gentleman from Vermont says, the Insurgents have attacked, taken and pillaged Montreal. What credit is due to the report I know not, but it is probably one of the fabrications of the day. Before this time, no doubt British forces have arrived in Lower Canada from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, by the way of St. Johns River & the insurrection may be suppressed.

A Campaign in Lower Canada at this season of year must be extremely tedious to the troops, and none but the most hardy ~~troops~~ can sustain it. The sufferings of our Army in the early months of 1776 are well remembered. In upper Canada the winters are less severe "there are few days in a Canadian Winter", says a settler at Lake Simco, "that a man may not labor out the whole day." But in every part of the Country

a winter campaign presents difficulties not easily surmounted; and no prudent commander will keep his troops in the field in the inclement season, without the most urgent necessity.

Population of Lower Canada
 according to a late Geographer 495,568
 Upper Canada 234,865
 (In 1830) Total 730,433

As many as four fifths are said to be descendants of the French in the lower province. In the upper, the people consist of ^{English} Irish Scotch and immigrants from the States, and some French

Montreal contains about	30,000
Quebec do do	21,000

The most populous part of the Country is confined to the St Lawrence and the confluent streams, where most of the French reside. The distance from the Sea at the mouth of St Lawrence to the western settlements in upper Canada cannot be less than 900 miles.

Sunday 24 Cloudy with the aspect of rain, though rather cold; after noon clear and the air more moderate.

Monday 25 Fair and pleasant day; [] []; very little wind has prevailed for several days.

Tuesday 26 Cloudy morn fair at noon & through the day, snow wastes.

Effects of the Sun's Declination on Temperature.

The sun being now on his apparently spiral course towards the equator, measuring his altitude, we might a priori suppose the cold would decrease. But this is found not to be the fact; the severity of the weather increases for sometime after the sun arrives at the southern tropic.

Though the ^{declination of the} sun southerly and northerly, is the general cause of the variation of the temperature, the effect does not immediately follow the cause. So in the summer season the hottest part of the day takes place at one or two oclock

after the sun culminates, the effect of his rays being more intense after his greatest altitude; and in the same manner the evening is warmer than the morning.

So again in the case of the tides, though caused ^{principally} by the attraction of the moon, they do not arrive at their highest elevation until sometime after she culminates. These ^{analogous} facts explain why the winter is colder after the sun begins to return from the southern tropic, than when it is at that circle.

The great excess of the land in the northern over that in the southern hemisphere and particularly south of the tropic of Capricorn, is a striking circumstance, and this, connected with the shorter time the sun is south of the equator, (amounting to about 8 days) owing to the ellipticity of the earth's orbit, appears like design in the Great Contriver of the solar system. Had the sun been placed in the other focus of the ellipses the case would have been reversed, and the hemisphere with the greatest surface of land received the least heat. And

December

And thus it is, the more we examine the works of nature the more we find proofs of design and adaptation in their structure, which ^{leads} irresistibly to a great intelligent cause we name God.

Other considerations resulting from an extended view of the recondite principles of physical astronomy carry the mind up to sublime adoration.

When we turn our view to the starry heavens and observe the sun planets and satellites and their magnitudes; the orbits of the ^{two} latter with their several inclinations to the ecliptic and to each other; their perturbations from the action of the all prevailing principle of gravitation, and the nice balances they require to preserve harmonious motion, we can hardly avoid shuddering with fear at the possibility, nay probability, of their becoming deranged and rushing into chaos. But from ^{the} recent investigations of some of our profound mathematical astronomers we

are now assured that the solar system is so contrived as to afford it self a compensating power, which renders any apparent irregularities harmless, and hence it is concluded to be permanent.

To La Grange we are indebted for the important discovery, that all the inequalities produced by the mutual action of the planets, are in their nature periodical; and that amid the changes which arise from their mutual action, there are two things which remain perpetually the same, namely, the greater axis of the orbit which the planet describes, and its periodic time; so that the mean motion of a planet, and its mean distance, are invariable quantities. The plane of the orbit, the species of the ellipse, and its eccentricity, are in a state of continual change, but never by any means the greater axis of the orbit, nor the time of a complete revolution in that orbit (Brewsters Astronomy).

La Place's researches come to the same result. He has demonstrated

that whatever the masses of the planets,
 provided they move all in the same
 direction, and in orbits^{but} little inclined
 to each other, their secular inequali-
 ties are periodic, and confined with
 in narrow limits; so that there is a
 certain medium state of the system
 about which it oscillates, but from
 which it never metrically deviates.

(See same astronomy)

These theorems demonstrate we may
 lay aside all fears of a contingent disorder
 in the solar system, and rest assured
 that ^{the great machine} will continue its harmonious
 and admirable motions, until the
 Deity shall interpose new laws, or
 suspend those now in operation.
 In view of such perfection who will not
 adore the great contriver? Surely, without
 an hyperbole

"An undevout astronomer is mad."¹

Wednesday 27 Fair day; last night
 brisk wind from westerly quarter
 day cool

The account from the Insurgents
 in both the Canadas are so contra-
 dictory

¹ A verse from Edward Young's *Night-Thoughts*.

dictory in the papers, that I should suspend any remarks until they assume a more authentic aspect.

At Buffalo Blackrock on the Niagara River the Americans seem to be espousing their cause with great zeal, under pretense of aiding the distressed in gaining liberty. When it shall appear that the inhabitants of Canada are oppressed by the British government we may look at their case & awake our sympathy; but let us not forget ourselves, and rush needlessly into a war with Great Britain. Our only strife with that nation should be in doing the greatest good; and for the promotion of that object nothing is more important than prescribing peace and good will.
Thursday 28 Cloudy morn, and about noon snow commenced; but a [] fell; sun out before he set.

Congress, Dec 20

Mr Slade of Vermont presented a petition from that State on the subject of slavery in the District of Columbia, on which the following

December

Resolution was introduced and passed by a vote of 122 to 74 viz "That all memorials, petitions & papers, touching the abolition of slavery, in the buying, selling or transfer of slaves in any state, territory or district of the US shall be laid on the table without reading, or reference or printing, and that no further action whatever shall be had thereon."

This is closing the gate effectually, and by a majority of 48. Are the members North of Mason and Dixon's Line alarmed at southern threats? Should the slave holding states withdraw from the Union they may be certain that their slavery would soon come to an end. No longer could they ^{legally} claim their runaways; and the result of a war between the two sections need only be hinted. Our southern brethren should be cautious!!! Men must be free!

"We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." and that the blacks within the United States, are, by the strictest definition, Men.

This being admitted, it is impossible for us to rest at ease, while 2½ million of our fellow beings are held in chains and subjected to the lash of their assumed masters.

Our Attorney General may hold the animals of his Menageries in chains; but not Men.

Friday 29. Cloudy most of the day and pretty cold.

From the last accounts the disturbances in the Canadas seem to be nearly at end. Two regular regiments of British troops were expected at Quebec about the 9th of December, by the way of St Johns River in New Brunswick; and garrisons are to be stationed at various points on the Sorel River. In

December

In New York City Richard K Frost a Thompsonian Dr has been tried for killing a patient by his stunning and Lobelia practice, and found guilty of manslaughter. This may be a damper to the foolish practice. A few years ago Thompson the leader of this imposture, was tried on the charge of murder at Boston, and acquitted because malice prepense could not be proved; though the evidence was clear that he killed his patient by malpractice.

Ignorant men should be cautious in how they use dangerous medicines.

Here a question of importance presents itself. Viz Whether there should be laws against quackery, and if so to what extent they should go? It would evidently be improper to prohibit the use of medicines called poisons, for mercury is such and still is held by able physicians to be one of the best when properly used. Much might be said on the subject, and perhaps the following would

would be the only correct result viz that all Physicians before they enter upon practice, should ~~should~~ be required to pass through a certain course of scientific study; and rendering malpractice punishable.

Saturday 30 Fair and pleasant day- snow rather scanty for sleighing.

Sunday 31 Cloudy morn, attended with a gentle fall of snow, but most of the day fair & pleasant.

This day closes the year 1837 and commences my 73 year. Born in 1765 in the 5th year of the Reign of King George, ^{the 3rd} I am now 72 years of age and in pretty good state of health; my lower limbs rather defective, particularly my right leg somewhat distorted, from a fracture which happened in the woods, by slipping off of the forebeam of a sled while moving along the road; my hearing some impaired, so that I cannot well catch low conversation.

Excepting my half-sister, Mrs Hannah Hamilton of Guilford in the State of New-York, and myself, my Fathers family have all deceased.

I ^{have} lived at an eventful period. The recollection of the whole of our Revolution as well as that of France, is distinct in my mind. ~~and~~ Great changes in political institutions as well as in the modes of thinking, have taken place, and, I think I may say, the world is improving in the useful. But still, even in the most civilized parts, it remains far below the advance of which it is susceptible. Men, as well as nations, would be happier were they less selfish, less ambitious, and more benevolent; did they adhere more closely to the rule, "do to other as you would have them do to us."

During my life great improvements have been made in the arts and sciences. Chemistry has assumed a new form, rendering the old treatises almost useless; mineralogy and geology are reduced to scientific order, and electricity, galvanism and magnetism are bringing to view new and wonderful phenomena. But among the inventions of machinery, nothing perhaps has exceeded the application of steam power to navigation and railroad

transportation, by which a ready intercourse is now had with distant parts of the Country, of the most important nature; rendering ^{places on the} Rivers in the interior nearly as accessible as out sea ports, and thereby filling our back regions with inhabitants. As regards navigation it still remains imperfect. Fatal accidents too often occur from the bursting of the boilers, and whether this will be fully remedied remains to be seen. One great desideration remains- a mode of deciding disputes between nations, without an appeal to the sword. This, it appears to me, is far from impossible. Nothing seems to be wanting but a determination of the governments of the civilized nations of the world, that it should be so. If impossible let the experiment determine the fact, and not mere speculation.

Monday January 1st 1838

Cloudy, threatening rain at night cloud broken

Old News Papers

Accidentally meeting with a ^{few} numbers of "The Boston News Letter" printed by John Draper in 1759, I have been much entertained. They contain details of the war in Germany & in America & particularly in the latter. Many of Genl Amherst movements about

Lakes George and Champlain are given and several of Major Rogers. Genl. Wolfs operations before Quebec are also included as well as Genl Johnson at Nigara. A complete file for the war of 1755 would be invaluable, as from there might be obtained a good sketch of the Provinces for that period. A Letter from Crown Point Sep 20-1759 says the land is all cleared about the Point, and as good soil as any I ever saw, and a great many houses on it; but more inhabited since the commencement of the war. The old fort is of no strength at all. We are building an addition of 4 forts, and each of them as strong as Ticonderoga. Major Rogers is gone out with 207 men, toward Montreal; and what success he may have, is yet uncertain.

In the paper Oct 26th mention is made of the multiplicity of Bears found in New England; one of 350[#] was killed on the farm of Col. Quincy in Brain tree, and another on Dorchester Neck, of about the same weight. Within 6 weeks past near 100 of these voracious animals have been killed in South Hadley District in the County of

Hampshire, some of them weighing 400 pounds. A New York account, Oct 15, states that 36 had been killed within 3 weeks, within the circuit of 5 miles, about Poughkeepsie, and that they were very plenty on the North River, and had done much damage among the sheep, hogs, calves, and the indian corn; and were more numerous than has been known in the memory of man. Perhaps they were driven from the north, by the operations of Amherst's Army.

An account of the Battle on the Plains of Abraham, Sept 13 1759, states that Montcalm's army was 10,000 strong, and Wolfs about 4500; that the French advanced in three columns, formed their line six deep, flanked on the right and left by thick woods, in which large bodies of Canadians & Indians were posted; that the French opened their fire at the distance of about 50 yards, but ^{it} was not returned by the British until they approached within 20 yards, and in 15 minutes the ^{french} gave way on all sides. Montcalm was killed on horseback; Wolf on foot, as he was charging his men to keep down, being squatted till the army gave their fire. Wolf was dressed in a Grenadiers habit to avoid distinction. The

The total of the British army, by the same account, is stated 10,100, of which only 1500 were on the plain, in the engagement. Part of the French army lay up the River under M Bougainville, at the time of the Action; and approaching after it ended was driven back. Five years defense of the Province, against the united forces of the British and Provincial troops, certainly evinced skill in the French officers and brawny in the troops; both regular and provincial.

Tuesday 2 Partially cloudy in the morn, but sun seen most of the day. snow wasting. Winter thus far moderate.

Wednesday 3. Partially cloudy in morn; quite lovely ^{most of} the other part.

From the last account from Upper Canada, it appears that the insurgents have not abandoned hope of success: they have some forces embodied in several places, one on Navy Island in the Niagara a short distance above the great cataract, of 700 or 800 men, with several lines of cannon and batteries. The force is said to be commanded by M. Van Rensselaer (son of Gen. Van Rensselaer

of Albany) a graduate of West Point, and that he is receiving recruits from both sides of the River, and contemplates landing on the Canada shore, where he expects to be joined by large numbers of the disaffected Canadians. I think their plans will not succeed. William L Mackenzie, one of the principal leaders, is with Van Rensselaer.

Early Discovery of America

The Society of Northern Antiquities at Copenhagen, have recently published, in a 4 Vol. pp 486, Antiquities of America before Columbus, &c composed of ancient Icelandic histories in relation to America, being mostly accounts of voyages of discovery to this Country made by Northmen in the 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries, with explanatory notes. By this work it appears the coast of Labrador, of the British ^{provinces} and our own, was visited by them, as far as Vinland, which the Society suppose was the Country about Narragansett Bay in Rhode Island. Cape Cod and the Islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vinyard are supposed to be []; and it is also supposed the voyages extended as far south as Florida.

Something of these accounts have long been ^{known} but have been supposed fabulous; they now come in a new and more authentic form, and I am informed, are gaining belief among our learned antiquarians. If the facts stated are true these Northmen must have been considerably advanced in Arts and sciences at the time of their voyages, and have been in the use of the magnetic Needle, or some instrument of a similar nature. For it is hardly to be supposed such extensive seas and coasts in the midst of fogs and deadly weather could have been traversed with^{out} something to steer the ships (Compass first used 1260)

In the spring of 986 Eric the Red immigrated from Iceland to Greenland and formed a settlement there, and in 1000 Leif the son of Eric, with a Crew of 35 men reached Vinland at the head of Narragansett Bay, as the Society suppose, and built houses to winter in. In 1002 Thorwald the brother of Leif visited Vinland where he spent 2 years and was murdered by the natives. In 1007 three ships

sailed from Greenland to Vinland with 160 men, and carried all sorts of domestic animals necessary for the comfort and convenience for a colony and spent the winter there. In 1121 Bishop Eric visited Vinland and is supposed to have spent his days there. Thus says the Newspaper Accounts.

Queri What became of the early imigrants? And was ^{not} the Narragansett houses formed among the indians at the first settlement of the Country, by the English, decendents of those brought from Greenland by the Norwegians in 1007?

Serious occurrence at Niagara

By a handbill printed at Northampton Tuesday evening, we are informed that last Friday night, five boats of British people crossed the Niagara and attacked an American steamer lying at Schlosser, 34 men on board, set her on fire, towed her into the stream down which she past over the falls; only 12 of the people have been found. One man found dead on the wharf. Brigadier General Burt, at the request of the Sherriff
of

of the County, has ordered his Brigade to march to Buffaloe for defense.

It is said the British landed on Grand Island and were commanded by the insurgents on Navy Island.

This may bring us into collision with the British Government. But I can hardly believe the movement was ordered by one of its officers; and it may be doubted whether the affair is correctly stated.

It is to be regretted that out people on the frontiers are so ready to interfere with the disturbances in the Canadas.

Thursday 4 Some rain last night and cloudy morn- little snow on the ground, and cloudy through the day.

Friday 5. Cloudy with fog most of the day.

Last evening an associated Company held their first meeting, which are to be continued weekly through the winter. Mr Jonathan A Saxton delivered an address on Slavery in which he pointedly condemned it as contrary to our principles of Government,

and justified the efforts now making by antislavery associations for its abolishment.

The object of the present association is the promotion of useful knowledge, without being confined to any subject; the speakers to select their themes.

Saturday 6 Fair with scattering clouds. Last night our River broke up and the snow in our valley and on the neighboring hills has demonstrably disappeared. Little rain has fallen, but the snow has melted away from the warmth of the weather.

Sunday 7. Fair, mild and pleasant day, resembling the Spring season.

Monday 8 Dark, cloudy & rainy morn, Continued cloudy through the day; a few flake of snow fell, with a cold NW wind at night. Evening clear.

Tuesday 9- Rain in the morn and Cloudy most of the Day, with the appearance of a rain or snow.

The accounts from the Nigara frontier indicate a high degree

of excitement in consequence of the attack on our Steam boat at Schlosser. Militia are called out to protect the American Shore. What number of men are lost in the boat remains uncertain. Gov. Head of upper Canada complains on the interference of our frontier people, and no doubt on good ground. It is the duty of our Government to look to the proceeding, and keep to a strict neutrality. Report says the Insurgents aided by Americans, have captured fort Malden (Uncertain.) Another that the British forces have taken Navy Island- equally uncertain.

Wednesday 10. Fair with thin clouds. Last night the Ground whitened with snow.

Thursday 11. Fair. last night cold; and the Ground is left rough for wheel carriages.

Friday 12. Fair day with scattering clouds and pleasant.

John Q Adams Manuscripts
The New York Commercial Journal,

quoted in Hallits Boston Advo
cate, States ^{that} this indefatigable man
from the moment of his first entrance
into public life, and until the present
time, has kept a Record of the courts of
each day of his life; and that the whole
of his "life and times" now extends to 70
large quarto volumes. "What a rich
inheritance," he remarks, "will that
work be to the future historian, the
politician, the antiquary?"

No man now living in the U.S. has
had greater opportunities than Mr
Adams for collecting facts in rela
tion to the times in which he has
lived; and how far his Records
may be useful to posterity, remains
to be seen. Whatever may have
been his opinions and conduct on
many distinct points, one thing is
certain, his records will contain
much of inestimable matter for
history. It is hoped they will not
be left to the moths, in some se
cluded garret, after his decease.

Saturday 13. Fair and pleasant
Day; the air mild, and the ground
almost entirely free from snow.

Report of the Secretary of War

Dec 2 1837- (J.R. Poinsett)

Observing upon ^{the} employment of the Topographical Engineers ^{knowing} it had been the practice of the Government to permit the affairs of that Corps to aid in the Construction of public Works in the several states, because the talent and knowledge which they possessed, was uncommon in our Country. A different state of things now exists. The demand for Civil Engineers has created them; and it is no longer ^{necessary} to aid the States & Companies by lending them officers of the army; but in so doing, an act of injustice is committed towards the Civil Engineers of the Country."

The secretary recommends an increase of the army of the US to 15,000 men, which he thinks necessary for the security of the frontiers now extending to 8,500 miles, & on the western border there is now 45000 Indian warriors.

This increase ^{it} appears to me is absolutely necessary for our protection.

~~and~~

To rely on our present regular
force to garrison our posts on the sea
and land side, looks like insanity;
and to represent a force of 15,000 men
as dangerous to the liberties of our Coun
try is insanity in the highest degree.

But Congress will not adopt the prop
osition; they will continue the old
cry- Militia! Militia! When the Flori
da war, alone, is sufficient to put at
rest the ridiculous notion.

Nº of Steam Boats on the Ohio & Mississip
pi in 1737 from the Report of the Med
ical Report on Marine Hospitals (and the
tributary streams)

1837 (Sept. 30) Steam Boats	638
Officers & hands to man them	15,950
Nº of flat & keel boats &c.	6,000
Officers & hands to man them	30,000
<u>Lake Erie &c.</u>	
Nº of Ships, barges, schooners & sloops	300
Officers & hands to man	2100
Nº of Steam boats	42
Officers & hands to man them	1260
Nº of Canal Boats	256
Officers & hands to man them	<u>1792</u>
Total men	<u>51,102</u>

"The first Steam Boat which attracted

the gaze of the amazed Indians, and the no less astonished settler, descended the Ohio and Mississippi in December 1811. Until then no sound save the report of the hunter or warrior's rifle, or the woodman's axe, had disturbed the solemn stillness of the primeval forest. The sovereignty of nature seemed complete. But the art of man was at work, and a revolution at hand. Steam boats increased; forests were filled; cities and towns, and farms usurped their place; and the tenants of the woods fled before an interfering, industrious and thriving population."

Sunday 14 Fair, with thin clouds and windy, all evening cloudy.

Monday 15. Fair day & mild. Last night a little fall of rain; and now not a flake of snow on our valley- another proof that the position of the sun is not the sole cause of the temperature of the climate. Must we look to subterranean heat to explain the phenomenon.

Tuesday 16. Fair and fine day. SW. winds but moderate. By the Greenfield Paper of this day we have Gov Everetts messaged dated July 9th Besides the usual matter it contains much in relation to Banks; but no very important projects, are pointed out. The latest news from the Niagara frontier, is January 4th at which time the insurgents, still rumored on Navy Island. The state of N York has made a demand on Genl. Van Rensselaer to deliver the ordnance and arms, belonging to that state; but the Genl refuses.

Our Governor's Message mentions the "impaired efficiency" of the militia. How impaired? We have the usual number of men enrolled and their discipline is nothing and always ^{was} nothing. He recommends further reform. May we be preserved from the restoration of the old system.

Wednesday 17 Cloudy morn; sun appeared about noon; but cloudy & some rain in the afternoon Fair at night. Day warm.

Yesterday & this day a meeting

of abolitionists was held at Greenfield to discuss the subject of Slavery, at which a number of Gentlemen from a distance attended, among whom was a Mr Stanton, said to be an impressive orator. The meeting produced a considerable excitement among certain characters, and elicited sentiments from a few which I have supposed could not be found in N. England. Strange as it may appear we have among us men who unequivocally approve of Slavery in the abstract. These men ought to have resided at Algiers previous to its conquest by the French, when they might have tasted the sweets of the system of slavery as it prevailed among that people.

The support given to masonry by many among us, during the late struggle with that order, had lessened my esteem for them, and taught me there is ~~was~~ not so much rectitude in the Country as I had supposed. Some of the same men seem now to be disposed to add another negative quality to their value.

Thursday 18 Foggy morn;
 fair most of the day; and the air
 almost as warm as a common summer
 day.

Dr. Williams who has just returned
 from Utica in the State of N York, in
 forms me he saw at Albany a new Gaz
eteer of that State, a large 8 vo vol. with
 a map of the State and maps of each
 County, in addition to the description
 of each town; price 7 Dollars. A
 valuable work. By- Gordon

The Dr represents many scientific so
 cieties, established in various places
 he visited, as flourishing, with fine
 collections of Books. In many towns
 it is the practice of the people to
 form associations and attend evening
 lectures on interesting subjects. This
 indicates a state of improvement
 which I am grateful to hear.

Renselaer the commander of the
 Canadian Insurgents at Navy Island,
 is represented as a man of no
 great respectability. He will pro
 bably soon be compelled to leave
 the Island from a want of pro
 visions for his men. It is hoped
 this will be the result and no mis
 understanding with the B. Government.

Friday 19. Cloudy & Foggy & a little rain with the morn, & heavy part day.

From the proceedings of Congress it appears the Southern members are much excited at the numerous petitions handed in, in relation to the abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia. Mr Calhoun has offered a number of resolutions in the Senate, connected with the subject, and much debate has been had.

Threats of a Division in the States are thrown out, and I think, fatal as this might be to the Slave holders, it may take place sooner or later.

The plan, probably, of the slave-holding States, is to annex Texas to the Union, and to combine the southern and SW States, and then form a new union. This would no doubt be an unfortunate event. A line of fortresses would be erected on the line of separation, strong standing armies would be raised by each government and frequent war would ensue. But I think this

would ultimately destroy slavery
in the new ^{southern} confederacy.

The slaves would continually be
deserting to the northern confed-
eracy, where they would be pro-
tected, and irritation of course
take place, war of ~~course~~ necessity would
follow; but in this case the advant-
ages would be on the side of the
northern confederacy. In case of
an invasion of the southern, the
slaves might easily be engaged against
their masters; and if furnished
with arms and officers, they would
be formidable. With 2½
millions of these disaffected people,
in conjunction with the northern
union, it needs not the gift of a
prophet to predict the result. Slavery
would come to an end, and the
Southern Union present but a
feeble government. If the southern
people are awake to their true ins-
tinct, they will see their danger. But
like their climate they are of a hot
temperament, and governed more
by passion than reflection.

The question now is, whether the
northern people, from fear of a divis-
ion, will succumb to the southern, or
persist in establishing the rights of all
according to the spirit of our Government.

Saturday 20 Fair day & cool.

Last night strong westerly wind and cold; the ground once more frozen

A Letter from Robert Williams Boston informs that he had received one from my son Arthur, dated December 28th stating that he and hands were well. He sends an advertisement to the Courier to engage Contractors on the Rail Roads in Illinois.

The New York accounts state that the Canadian (or rather American) Insurgents still hold Navy Island; that the British militia cannot be persuaded to attack the Island, and that a body of Insurgents are expected to arrive from the interior in aid of Renselaer's force. The latter not very likely to be true.

Sunday 21 Cloudy morn, + most of the day the sky overspread with thin clouds; & cold. No snow on the ground.

Monday 22. Fair day with hazy atmosphere, and cool.

Tuesday 23. Fair day and scattering Clouds, but cold. Ground still in

[] Last

Last evening we had a Lecture from the Mr Hepworth on Chemistry, elucidated by a number of experiments very successfully performed. The lecture was an introduction to a course he proposes to deliver, if he can obtain a sufficient class, at 50 cents a head; five lectures to complete the course. Whether he will meet with sufficient encouragement is a little doubtful. In order to excite an interest in subjects of this kind a scientific taste must exist, and unfortunately this taste is not found among a majority of our young people. Many of them, it is true, read, but their Books are of the light sort- the prevailing error of the times. In general lectures addressed to the passions, rather than the reason, are relished by a majority. Hence the declamatory speaker receives more applause than the reasoning one; the former is the best for an excitement, the latter, to regulate the judgment. The first may be wild and even dangerous, the other regulates, refines and calms the mind.

Wednesday 24 Fair day & bright sun. no snow.

Accounts from the west say that Van Renselaer has abandoned Navy Island and his men have dispersed but like most of the accounts we have had, it comes in a doubtful form.

America discovered in the Tenth Century: By Charles C Rafn, Secretary to the Royal Society of Northern Antiquarians Copenhagen

A pamphlet with this title has just been published in New-York.

Containing among other matter An abstract of the Evidence (Historical) contained in the "Antiquitates Americanae" account of several voyages from Greenland and Iceland to the Coast of the United States are given, and particularly to those of Massachusetts, & Rhode Island, called Vindland.

The voyages are said to have been made between 906 and 1347, the last 45 years before Columbus, discovery of America. If we may believe the accounts, the Northmen were well acquainted with the whole

coast of the United States, long before the first voyage of Columbus whether the Society will be able to establish their Ante-Columbian History of America, is to be seen; they have numerous members on various parts of Europe as well as in America, and are throwing out extensive publications on the subject. From what has been published it seems the Northern Men traversed the Atlantic Ocean in various directions, with as much facility (nearly) as at the present day; and yet it does not appear that they were in the use of the magnetic needle, or had a correct knowledge of the sphericity of the Earth, or the modes of determining Latitude and Longitude; and it would be strange if shipbuilding was there brought to much perfection. They must however, have known something of the Art; for in 994 the king of Denmark and Norway invaded England with a great army and of course they must have had ships suitable for the transportation of the troops. See page 23, for a notice of the subject.

Thursday 25 Cloudy & foggy
morn. In the afternoon fair with
a pleasant sun.

Friday 26 Rainy and foggy morn
afternoon fair & pleasant, resembling
a spring day. To behold the ground
entirely free from snow, soft and mud
dy, at this season, is novel indeed;
and cannot but elicit inquiries as
to the cause of the temperature of
the seasons; and I am more and
more inclined to believe we must
seek it, in the internal fires in the
earth, which Earthquakes and Volca
noes, I think, prove to exist.

Saturday 27. Fair morn- after
noon cloudy & a dash of snow at
evening.

Sunday 28 Sun shone in the
morning, but soon cloudy
Last night a rapid snow fell to
the depth of 6 inches, and winter
once more assumes its wonted face.
To me the snow was unexpected, as the
clouds were rather dark and a fog
hung upon the mountains.

Monday 29. Cloudy and Fair
alternately: some snow squalls- strong wind
last night.

Tuesday 30 Fair and cold with
westerly wind Last night very cold
Facts and Traditions respecting
the existence of Indigenous Intermittent
Fever, in New England.

A work with this title is just from
the Boston Press By Dr. Oliver Wendell
Holmes; and contains much cu
rious matter in relation to the early
diseases of New England.

In the medical and Surg []
of Dr. Matthew Smith he had
stated that "On Connecticut River
from Northampton in Massachusetts
to its source, a distance of more than 200
miles from North to South, and on all
its tributary streams, on both sides,
for 100 miles in width, there has been
no instance of any person's having
contracted the intermitant fever,
from the first settlement of the Country
to the present time."

Dr Holmes has collected many facts
in relation to this point, and proved
uncontestably that Dr Smith is under
a great error. But no place in
N. England

New England has been so liable to the fever and ague as the Country on the Housatonic River in the lower part of Berkshire County, and I believe some cases are still found there. Hatfield and Deerfield it appears were formerly liable to it; but at not time of my life have I seen an indiginous case in this town. Places in New England much North of our Latitude, excepting on Lake Champlain, seem to have been exempted from the disease.

But in the western Country it prevails further North. Would it not be found on examination ⁱⁿ the Countries which abound in clay and lime on the surface, that these fevers are more prevalent than in those where primitive soils are found? This seems to be the case; but whether the former soils have any tendency to produce fevers I know not.

According to the theory of Dr Currie (see Sketch Book N5 p 90) the miasmata of marshy Countries extract, or lessen, the oxygen of the atmosphere and thusly render it unhealthy. May not then the

clay and lime where it abounds
 effect the atmosphere in this way?
 Chemistry may afford an answer to
 the question.

Wednesday 31. Fair and pretty
 cold winter weather. What a con-
 trast between this and the weather
 for 20 days past, and how shall we
 account for this difference?

Thursday February 1st Fair ^{morn} and
 common winter weather. Afternoon
 cloudy

Friday 2. Fair day and rather
 more moderate.

A Gentleman by the name of Asa
 Fairbanks from Providence R Island
 called on me requesting aid in the
 Anti Slavery cause, by taking the New
 York Emancipator, or [] mo-
 ney. He appeared to be well informed,
 but I could not give him the
 required aid, money being an article
 that does not flow into my lock
er. He offered no vouchers of his ap-
 pointment as an agent in the cause
 but I had no reason to doubt of
 his honesty. But in all cases of
 this kind some vouchers are im-
 portant.

February

Saturday 3. Cloudy most of the day + sunshine occasionally.

Mr John Hawks put into my hands the journal of his Grandfather Col. John Hawks, kept on the route from Fort Massachusetts to Montreal & Quebeck, after his capitulation with the French Commander at fort Mass. The number of men in the fort is stated at 22 and 3 women and 6 children of which 11 ^{men} are stated as sick. Another account I have makes the whole N°. 33. The enemy are stated 965 french and indians. The fort invested August 19 1745 (should be 1746).

The 21st "We set out for Canada, the french helping the sick and wounded. Most of us arrived this day at Vandavorick's place: this night Reed died, and Mrs Smead was delivered of a daughter and was mighty well."

22 Mr Norton (the Chaplain) baptised Smead's child; then all set forward, carrying Mrs Smead & child & Scott's wife & two children; the indians, carrying in the canoes, Al chunks and Perry's wife (wives) went down the River all day, and at

night better in health than
when we left the fort."

(Note the river mentioned must be the
Hoosack)

23 Left the River and travelled; hors
es provided for the women. The in
dians were very kind to the sick.

(Note. The point where they left the
River probably was Hoosack falls)

24th. Lords day. We set forward, crost a
River (probably Battenkill) and arrived
at the head of a small stream that runs
into the drowned lands and lay by
the heads ^{of it}. Part of the day was rainy
and ^{we} were wet through; yet health good.

(Note The stream noted was, probably
a branch of Pawlet River in Hebron
or Granville. The route from the Hoosack to this place
must have been through White Creek,
Cambridge and Salem)

25th Travelled rough way a small
distance and lay by 2 ponds

26. Set forward and travelled till
about 12 oclock and came to the
Canoes. Our sick and wounded
in better health than when we set
out. We refreshed ourselves with
what they had. I was treated with
wine and brandy. About 2 oclock

set sail, and there was great joy;
and that night lay by the side of the
Lake. That night Freedom Frank's
son had his thigh broke by the fall
of a tree & 2 men wounded.

(Note The water passage must have
been on Pawlet River to the present
town of Whitehall, whence they lodged
"by the Lake")

27th We embarked and sailed towards
Crown Point and arrived at 12 oclock;
(Probably PM); the infirm better in
health than when we started from
the fort.

28th Tarried at Crown Point this
night- very cold.

29th Continued cold and stormy

30th Tarried at the Point and
was treated with all the kindness
that I could ^{expect/}wish

31 At Crown Point ~~and~~ had liberty
of worshipping together. This day
some Indians brought 6 scalps
and a captive or lad- his name
Samuel Allen, a [] kinsman
of mine

Sept. 1. Tarried at Crown Point

2d I prevailed with the General

to send into the fort for Samuel Allen, who gave me an account of his father, being killed and Gillet and Amsdel, which was a great grief to me. I interacted with the gentleman to redeem Allen from the Indians; but did not succeed. They told me I need not be concerned about him and that he should not remain long with them.

3^d Tarryed at Crown Point.

4th About 12 oclock set out for Mont real (left Allen) at night lay by the Lake

5th Rained, and we lay still

6th Set forward an went a great way; at night went on shore and boiled some fowl they had killed; and about 12 at night sailed the rest of the night.

7th Being Lords day, about 12 oclock came to the Chamble, where I was nobly treated by Mr Dote, interpreter of the French, and lodged at his house

8th We set out with Canoes down the River; we laid that night at the mouth of Chamble River. part of the day rainy and cold.

9th The wind blew. We set out for Montreal and went up the River to the lower end of Montreal Island.

10th Came up to Montreal and put up with M Luc la Come who had the care of me

11th Stayed at Montreal. M La Come ordered his horses and Chair and carried me before the Governor & Commissary. I eat and drink as he did, and he shew me all the kindness that I could possibly expect, and got such things as was necessary for me.

(Note. M la Come was an officer in the Expedition and capture of the fort, and had the particular charge of Sergeant Hawks, during the march home to Montreal; and Mr Hawks acknowledges his kind care of him during the time he was with him. The character of this officer has been represented in a very different light by most who knew him in the war of 1755; and in the massacre at fort William Henry he is represented as acting the part of a savage. He there commanded the Indians. Perhaps the representations have been tinged with

prejudices which our officer had acquired in the war of 1755 in which la Come was an active partisan.

It is gratifying to me to find that he was not exactly the ferocious leader that has been represented by historic ~~and~~^[] accounts. Against General Burgoyne, who he accompanied to Fort Ann, he took a decided part after the surrender of that officer at Saratoga, and even denied him military skill.)

12th After we had dined and smoked a pipe, la Come took me in his chair and carried me down to the battoes and we sailed for Quebec in company with Mr Norton and other prisoners & their families.

13th Sailed with a fair wind and arrived at Three Rivers & supped with the Governor

14th Lords day, sailed all day and great part of the night and was courteously entertained.

15th Arrived at Quebec & was examined by the Governor and Lord Intendant and conducted to the Prisoner house where we made the N^o 105. Here we had the liberty of worshipping together. Mr Norton and myself

were put into the Captains Room with many of the Gentlemen prisoners. The French [] were so kind to Mr Norton as to send him such clothing as was necessary; and other gentlemen unknown. They sent him shirts, handkerchiefs, caps, a pair of breeches and stockings.

23^d Other prisoners came into the prison.

24th Forty three new prisoners taken at sea joined them.

26th Seventy four new prisoners joined them. The men who remained with the Indians were stripped of their clothes.

Here the journal stops, and it does not appear in what manner Mr Hawks was ^{exchanged/}redeemed. During his stay at Quebeck he kept a journal of the deaths among the prisoners, from which it appears that down to the 26th of May 1746 (1747) 61 had died. The place seems to have been ^{very} sickly to our people. The cause of this is not apparent. Northern Countries have been supposed healthy.

According

According to Serg^t Hawks journal the prisoners in Canada were treated with more humanity by the French than at the time of Rev John Williams captivity in 1704. It may be that Mr. Williams Book published soon after his return, had ~~have~~ found its way to that Province, ~~and~~ been read by the Clergy there, and taught them the error of their policy Mr Williams it is probable would have met with less security had he been a little more pliable and less tenacious of ^{his} religious rites, which are now deemed of less importance than he had supposed. By such a course he might have conciliated the French Clergy and still retained all the essentials of his religion. See Drake's Indian Captivities 2 page narration page 127

Sunday 4 Fair with heavy clouds. day cold.

One of our "rigidly righteous," orthodox neighbors, sent me, last evening, the Rev. Austin Dickinson's National Preacher, containing two sermons by the Rev Dr Griffin, one On the worth of the soul, the other on the knowledge [of] God. If his ~~object~~ object was

was to convert me to his system, I think he might have made a better choice. A few extracts will show the nature of Dr. Griffin's rhapsody. See them "What must have been the valuation of the soul in Heaven, when that God, before whom all nations are as the 'dust of the balance', became an Infant in the manger of Bethlehem, sweat blood in Gethsemane, was beaten and spit upon in the judgment hall, and expired on the ragged irons?" Again

"The son of God would not have given his life to redeem the whole material Universe from ruin. He would not have shed a drop of his blood to save this world with all its lumber from the flames. He will give it to the flames when its use to the soul of men shall be ended. And yet he shed all his blood to save the soul."

Now for the strife between Heaven and Hell." Heaven and

earth, God and angels, and good men are engaged to deliver the soul. And this is not all; there is a motivation to oppose its deliverance. Myriads of principalities & powers are [] against it. 'How great must be the value of the soul,' says one, when three worlds are thus contending for it. Would three worlds, I ask, thus contend for this little particle of dirt called the earth? No! but they will contend for the soul of man." Again. "What then should we think of the soul? that for whose guard the angel bands come flying from above"?

In the sermon on the knowledge of God, we find the following: "When we can praise God to be so holy and glorious that a bare neglect to love him would deserve eternal wo, and that no conceivable punishment is great enough for the watch that dares rebel against him; When with spiritual discernment we contemplate God turning the angels out of heaven for sin, turning Adam out of Eden, turning a beautiful world into a prison

house of groans, a shambles of blood;
 turning millions into hell, and
 more than all, thrusting his sword
through the heart of his son; then
 we discover, in a light unknown
 before, what sin [] and what
 we are; and lifting a pleading
 eye to Jesus, we lay ourselves down
 in the dust to wonder at the pati
ence and mercy of God."

Once more "And ^{he} now ~~he~~ (the peni
 tent) ^{ponders} what to some may seem a
 paradox, that if a sense of guilt
were banished from heaven much
of the happiness of heaven would
be banished with it." Remarks

I know not that Dr Griffin
 was subject to turns of insanity;
 but it ^{is} hoped ~~when~~ he was not
 in a sane mind when he delivered
 some if not all, of these irreverent
 then blasphemous explosions:
 Once this man has been Presi
dent of Williams College!

If the Rev Mr Dickinson desires
 to promote the cause of Christianity
 by diffusing his National Preach
 er, he must correct his taste in

his selections, and give us some thing addressed to the reason of rational beings, instead of vulgar ~~bleated~~ declamation. A more consistent theology is now on the march, and thinking men will no longer suffer themselves to be obfuscated by the ~~fog~~ mist which [] zeal has covered the [] of those who take religious opinions upon the ipso dictu of their pretended spiritual guides, claiming to be commissioned from heaven.

From a note given on the cover of this (Nº1 of 12 Vol) it appears Mr Dickinson has transferred the proprietorship of the work from the commencement of the 12 Vol. to the Rev. Davison Mead of the City of NY but Mr D. I suppose, continues the editor; perhaps jointly with Mr Mead.

Monday 5. Fair and cold day
sun bright. Good sledding. Ice
of Deerfield River good to my
wood land above Stillwater.

Tuesday 6 Fair sun shining day
and pretty cold, though some drop
ping from the eaves.

Wednesday 7 Fair morn, the latter part of the day Cloudy.

Thursday 8 Cloudy morn. last night about 2 inches of snow fell; Clouds continued through the day and the weather mild.

Militia in General Court.

In our house of Representatives Feby 5th Ordered that the Committee on the Militia inquire into the expediency of repealing the 125 Section of the Revised Statutes, of the militia law &c

This section makes provision for paying the light companies &c for their services in training.

Under the present condition of these companies, the payment for their services is in fact ^{nearly} a useless expenditure. The time they are required to do duty is altogether insufficient for any improvement in discipline, and their organization is very defective, and ^{the} numbers equally so. What is the object of the order I am at a loss. Probably to restore the old system of training the whole

which cannot continually be done with out pay, so long as a part are paid.

A repeal of this section would undoubtedly destroy the volunteer companies, and perhaps this would be a good step towards a better system; and a renewal of the old trainings would have the same effect. On the whole no matter how soon the whole of the present system falls; for it is worthless. A new one might then be adopted. But this must be done by Congress, if at all.

Another order proposes to repeal the 54 Chapter of the Statutes, which provides bounties for killing certain obnoxious animals. No matter how soon this be done; for the statute is useless, if not barbarous.

Friday 9 Cloudy morn; fair in afternoon & not very cold.

A Letter from my son Arthur, to Franklin Hoyt, dated Paris Illinois Jan 20 1838 States that he is about to enter 2000 acres of first rate land (prairie and timber) and he intends to divide it into farms from 80 to 320 acres each. He holds the land at 5 dollars the acre. A

a Village will be started and the country will fill up fast (he says).

The tract I suppose in the County of Shelby, nearly in the center of the State, & probably on one of the Rail roads to be constructed by the State.

The County according to Pecks Gazetteer, contains a large amount of excellent land, both timber and prairie, and is one of the best inland agricultural counties in the State.

It corners on Sangamon County & is 36 by 30 = 1080 square miles. It is watered by the Kaskaskia and its tributaries.

Shelbyville is the County town- has 6 stores- 3 groceries- a brick Court house 40 foot square & 2 stories, with a cupola, and 40 or 50 families; the country round excellent Lands, a mixture of timber and prairie, and the settlements are extensive A sulphur spring in the town.

The timber in Sangamon County oaks of various species, walnut, sugar maple, elm, linden, hickory, ash, hackberry, honey locust, mulberry, sycamore, cottonwood, sassafras and various shrubs common to the Country.

Kaskaskia River passes through Shelby Country; it is stated to be 400 miles in length following its meanders (which it appears to me cannot be correct) an extensive body of timber lands from 10 to 12 miles wide is found along the stream, generally of a good quality. The bottom on the River from half a mile to 2 or 3 miles in width, subject to inundation in high floods. The legislature has granted 50,000 dollars to improve the navigation of the River, the chief obstructions are logs, sand banks, & short bends. A steam boat has ascended to Carlyle 215 ^{miles} by water above its mouth.

Bituminous Coal is said to be found in the County in good quantities by excavation, and seen in the ravines without excavation. The County, I think, will make a fine agricultural region for farmers; but as the Kaskaskia is long ~~and~~ and very serpentine and obstructed with shoals, the navigation may not be good; of course transportation will probably be on the Rail Roads, to be constructed by the State.

The

The State of Illinois is laid down on the maps between the Latitudes of 37° and $42^{\circ}.30'$, giving for its extreme length 380 miles, and its extreme width 220. Its average width 150 miles, the width on the north from the Mississippi to Lake Huron is $144\frac{1}{3}$ miles, and ^{the state} contains exclusive of water and waste Land, 50,000 square miles, or 32 millions acres of arable lands, according to Peck.

In a short time it must become the most populous State in the Union, if not the richest. It is larger in surface than Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire United. Hardy & industrious young men who have small, or no farms, in New England, ought to commence their march for the State as soon as possible, or consent to live on bare labor and hand toil, where nothing can be accumulated for their children and old age.

I would urge none to emigrate who felt a strong desire to remain at the place of their birth; but if any wish independence or less toil and fruitful homes let them commence the march, if they have the means to effect it~

Saturday 10 Fair day-

The winter is now steady and sleighing pretty good; the temperature moderate and no very cold days have occurred.

New College in Illinois

Describing Belvidere in the western part of the County of Broome, Peck says the citizens in the region are about to erect a College edifice on the summit of a mound 50 rods long and about 30 rods wide & 75 feet high and that a charter was granted for the purpose at the last session of Legislature. The Rev. SS Whitman formerly professor in the Hamilton Literary & Theological Institution New York, is engaged in the enterprise. Broome County is on the stage road from Chicago to Galena and bounds N. on Wisconsin territory Most of the Land is not surveyed, and of course not in the market; but is rapidly settling: present population about 600~ The plan has been called square prairie, and has a delightful appearance. It is a curious circumstance that a college is to erected
before

farm houses, and cultivation, or the lands are laid out. This elevation, I think, is not the most eligible one that might have been chosen. In the winter the winds from the level country adjacent will be tedious and the place disagreeable in the extreme. The County of McHenry 24 miles wide, lies between Broome County and Lake Michigan

We may now soon look for science from the Country of Blackhawk! Would not prosperous farms be preferable, until the Country is older? Common schools should first be established in a new country, and then colleges will follow of course.

Sunday 11 Fair to cold morn as severe as any we have had this winter. Soon clouded up and snow fell most of the day (moderately) My Daughter Isabella writes me from Boston, that the Rev Luther Hamilton has delivered an address to the initiated at the Masonic temple. His wife says the institution was never more flourishing no doubt the language of her husband. That a clan who have murdered one of their brethren, should present in their turpitude is not strange to me Mark the man!!!~

<u>Contents</u>	<u>page</u>
Canada Insurrection	1
Accident on a Railway with remarks	2
Winter Solstice with remarks	3
Canadian Insurrection, Report of	6
Population of the Canadas	7
Effects of the Suns Declination	8
Of the Permanency of the Solar System	10
Congress Proceedings, Dec. 20	13
Conviction of a Thompsonian doct.	16
Close of the year 1837	17
Old News-papers for 1759	19
Canada Insurgents again	22
Early Discoveries in New England	23
Serious occurrence at Niagara	25
John Q Adams, Manuscripts	28
Report of the Secretary of War	30
Steam Boat on the western waters	31
Governor's message	33
Congress Proceedings	36
Rafn on the Discovery of America	
by the Northmen	40
Dr. Holmes on intermittent fever in N England	43
Col. Hawks' Journal to Quebeck	46
Dr. Griffins Sermons	53
Shelby County, Illinois	59
New College in Illinois	63
Masonry still alive at Boston	64

Sketch- Book No 10
From February 11th 1838
To March 5th 1838

Part 2

Note The pages in the fore
part, should be numbered on
wards from 65 to 82; these pages
commencing at the beginning of
No. 10 Part 1~

The "Progress of Settlements" &c
was delivered before an associa
tion in this town, in the evening
of the of . at their request;
with a counter point from page
136 to page 149, inclusive, No. 6.

Of the Progress of Settlements
within the U States, subsequent to
the French war, which ended in
1763.

During the French war which commenced in 1755, and terminated in the Northern Provinces, in 1760, though continued in Europe to 1763, our ~~the~~ settlements were no further advanced than at its commencement. At that period the principal part of Maine, the Northerly part of Newhampshire, nearly the whole of Vermont, the northern and western part of New York, the western part of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and the Southern States; and all the Country west, except a few old French settlements in Indiana Illinois, & Missouri, and about a few forts in those regions, was a vast uncultivated wilderness, over which the natives ~~tribes~~ roamed at large in pursuit of the game which abounded in every part.

At that time our knowledge of the geography of the country was very limited, and the little known was

derived principally from the Jesuits and other early French adventurers ~~and travelers~~ and a few fur traders who had established stations in various places, for carrying on their traffic with the Indians.

Soon after the peace of 1763, Capt Jonathan Carver, an enterprising officer, who had served in the war, penetrated to the Mississippi and some distance up the St Pierre, emptying into the former from the N.W.; and in his journal, published in England gave further information of the country but few settlements were then made beyond the limits of 1763.

~~From that period~~ The more recent travels of Lewis & Clark, Pike, Schoolcraft, and Long, have presented more accurate information and the geography of the Country over which they traveled is now better known~

From the peace of 1783 to the present time, swarms of emigrants from the older states, as well as from Europe, have penetrated far into the western regions; and the war whoop of

the savage has now given place
 to the sound of the Ax ~~of the civilized~~
 [—] the lowing of the herds & the songs of civilized men.

The Indian war which commenced
 in 1790 and was terminated by Genl.
 Wayne's Army on the banks of the Mau
 me in 1794, retarded the progress of settle
 ments for some time; and the British
 war of 1812, was a further obstruction
 Since ~~that time~~ latter period, nothing has occurred
 of a formidable nature, to prevent an
 extension even to the Rocky Moun
 tains; and the progress has been
 rapid. Not only the States east of the
 Mississippi but Missouri Arkansaw
 and ~~Mississippi~~ Louisiana on the west, are filled
 or are fast filling with inhabitants:
 and all this advance into the wilder
 ness, the work of about 50 years, dating
 from the peace of 1783~ Wonderful
 progress! Astonishing effort of human
~~industry~~ enterprise!

The toil worn veterans of the French
 war of 1755, are ~~probably gone~~ now no more and
 their memory nearly vanished from
 the present busy race, now reaping the
 fruits of their arduous/herculean labors: and
 History but faintly "Tells

"Tells the sad tale of glory gone
 of valor sleeping dark and lone."
 But let us suppose one of these, still
 living ~~and~~ retaining his mental faculties
 and to commence a reconnaissance over the
 country which he had passed in his
 adventurous expeditions, while it was
 wild and waste, and the shrill war
 whoop of the savage & howl of the wolf, echoed from hill
 to hill, through the deep gloom of
 the interminable forrest. I will sup-
 pose him one of the Rangers of the cel-
 berated corps of Major Rogers, who
 traversed the western country about the Lakes under the
 orders of Genl. Amherst, in 1760~

Taking his departure from Albany
 the old head quarters of the Army, then
 the residence of the plodding Dutchman
 and seated in the rapid car on the iron strapped way in a short
 hour he is at Schenectady, another
 old station; but its improvements &
 embellishments and the grand canal
 stretching off to the west, confuse his
 reminiscences and but for a few Dutch
 houses, with their sharp peaked
 roofs, his recollections of the place would
 have been lost.

Leaving ~~this place~~ Schenectady and proceeding up

the Mohawk, his recollections revive,
 and numerous associations rush upon
 his mind. The rifts and rippling wa-
 ters of the stream, remind him of his tugs
 at the setting pole and oar of the slow
 ascending battoe. Many places where
 a few rude cottages were clustered within
 slight stockades meet his eye, now con-
 verted into spreading villages and ele-
 gant mansions, the abode of peace
 and plenty. Fort Hunter Johnson Hall and Conaja
 hwory are recollected.

Further up the river he recognizes the
 little falls and the rocky portage, over
 which the battoes and baggage were
 transported on the backs of the men,
 and further on the extensive German
 flats, now presenting handsome villages,
 the old frontier in the French war
 and principal station of the British
 and Colonial forces on the river of the
 old forts nothing but three sites are
 seen, and they with difficulty traced

Perusing his route up the river, he
 looks for the interminable forrest where
 the skulking savage was found at
 every mile, and every thicket eyed
 with distrust & anxiety; but it had disappeared;

and numerous farms and houses are seen along the banks of the river, indicating wealth and domestic happiness.

On the left a superb cluster of towering buildings meet his eye. It is the City of Utica! Where formerly stood fort Schuyler, in a recess of the woods. The scene appears like enchantment, and he is again confounded. With wonder he views the ~~long~~ extended streets, and continuous brick buildings ~~and stores~~, which present in every direction; where naught but a thick forest was formerly seen.

Proceeding onwards he passes Whites borough on Sadaquada creek another enchanting ~~place~~ village, unknown in former times; and at length finds himself at the old carrying place between the Mohawk and wood creek. Here again, instead of surrounding woods, he sees, open fields & a handsome village: It is Rome! He seeks for the little fort that stood at the landing; but it is gone. With eager steps he reaches fort Stanwix, on the margin of a beautiful meadow, which he recognizes as the place of many of his toils and adventures-the
scene

scene of Col. St Legers operations at the time of Genl Burgoynes invasion, in 1777. Thence he hastens his steps across the portage to the site of Fort Bull, surprised and taken by the French and Indians in 1756, and the principal part of the garrison barbarously massacred.

The old sinuous route down wood creek through Oneida Lake to fort Brewerton, and thence down Onandago River to Oswego, the scene of many of his adventures, are fresh in his memory. But his route is on a different direction.

The Country of the Six Nations, an extensive region of woods, rivers and lakes, in the war of 1755, is now to be passed on the route to Niagara; and our old veteran anticipates a wild country destitute of civilization. But see! Along the road, scattered houses, pleasant villages and prosperous towns, presenting not only indications of rural happiness, but a high degree of wealth, teeming with a numerous population of civilized men.

At Onandago, he seeks for the ancient Capitol of the six nations whence oratory, rude but powerful, was
displayed

displayed, at the Council fires, and the affairs of the nation regulated. A remnant of the Indians was there; but not the proud chiefs of former times. They had lost their ancient superiority the effects of intermixing rude manners and customs with civilized refinement. On the first intercourse with the early settlers of New-York the part of the Country is said to have been the seat of a vast population, and a “blast of the horn.” On Onondago Hill, would assemble 2000 warriors for the battle.

~~Proceeding west, our old soldier is astonished at the~~ Following the valley of Onondago ~~Here~~ our veteran seeks for the Old salt spring at which the hunter seasoned his venison and feasted on the labors of the chase. But what does he find? A thick settled village; its cleared fields, and busy workmen. It is Salina! on the margin of Onondago Lake, on which one floated the invading French army of Count Frontenac. But Garangula and his Chiefs are not there “they had received their fame”; and their

sons, forgetting their heroic deeds ~~deeds~~ have
become a fugitive band

Proceeding west our old soldier is aston-
ished at the appearance of farm
houses and villages (~~on every side~~) where
~~which~~ elegance and spender rise, and
~~and~~ spacious fields spread on every side ~~before his eyes~~
He pauses at Auburn: Its clustered
houses—its state Prison and its ele-
gance create his wonder, & the old
Cayuga Castle; the adjacent Lakes,
and plying canoes remind him of
“olden times.” Passing Cayuga Lake, a few miles
brings him to the glittering Seneca ~~Lake is next~~
~~in view~~, and the ~~our~~ old veteran glances
his eye to the western shore to des-
cry Canadasago, the ancient Seneca
town; but a crowded and superb
village ~~village~~ appears. It is Geneva-
in the midst of a populous region &
rich farms. A small distance north
he finds the old Indian Castle, with
its surrounding orchards, the thrifty
shoots of the apple trees, cut down
by Genl Sullivan’s army in 1779.
It was once the seat of a powerful tribe
of Indians, renounced in the history
of the Six nations. Onward

Onward the Country continues equally populous, to Canandaigua, a beautiful town at the northern extremity of a lake of that name, both retaining the Indian appellation; but in the place of the rude cabin of the native, the village presents wealth elegance & taste ~~and is~~ the abode of a ~~polished~~ refined community.

Continuing west to Genesee River the surprise of our old hero is not lessened

Elegant houses, villages and wide spreading farms line the way on every side, and the famed flats on the River, the former scene of Indian enjoyment, but of barbarous cruelty to prisoners, is recognized. The horrible sufferings of Boyd one of Sullivan's Captains, at Big Tree, remind him of similar scenes ~~he had witnessed~~ that had occurred in the old Campaigns on our frontiers.

From Genesee River to Buffaloe the Country though more recently settled presented a chain of farms & villages, indicating industry and ~~wealth~~ competency

~~Batavia, a handsome town the place of a recent event damning to the reputation of a secret society falsely claiming to be~~

Batavia, a handsome village, the seat of justice in Genesee County, being the most noted: Where alas! the ~~dearest~~ sacred rights of the people, instead ~~instead~~ of receiving the protecting hand of government, have been audaciously, and with impunity, assailed by ruffian hands, in a recent event, damning to the character of a secret society extensively imposed on the [] by falsely claiming to be founded on principles of benevolence of the deepest turpitude.

But, in commiseration, it should be remarked, that the respectable part of the inhabitants of the place, were not abettors of the horrible crimes of kidnapping committed and murder and ought not to be charged with the kidnapping and murder of an innocent citizen, while men high in office as well as hundreds of corrupt, or to give a milder turn, infatuated ~~men of the~~

men of the surrounding country
were principals or accessories.

~~founded on principles of benevolence
and occult science, the most fruitful
germ of deep turpitude, being the most
noticed. But At not the respectable
part of the inhabitants be charged
with the murder, while hundreds
of the surrounding Country were ac
companies and principals or accomplices~~

Approaching Niagara River which
our ~~old~~ hero had traversed under
Major Rogers in 1760, interesting scenes
open upon his recollection. On the
river below, forts Niagara, Scloser, and
the grand cataract; ~~and~~ to the west
the {—} lake broad Erie stretching away
between wooded shores, limited only
in the distance by the sky;- the old camping ground
at the outlet, covered with woods;-
all were present in retrospection &
he hastens forward. But what does
he see? A City with its towering {—}
buildings extending up and down the River—
Its light house and crowded shipping
at the spacious wharves; the hum of busy
multitudes;- the portage settlements on the
British side, and the ponderous
steam boat in rapid motion on the Lake with
out sail or oar! All is enchantment!

and he thinks for a moment, that
 he is entering some populous sea port
 on the Atlantic border instead of Buffaloe.

On board of one of the floating mon
sters, belching fire and smoke, he pro
 ceeds up Lake Erie to Presque Isle, and
 lands at the old fort~

A few points of land stretching into
 the lake, ~~are seen on the passage~~ seen on the passage,
 were recollected, and a few intervening
 bays, where the battoes of his party
 had landed and the men encamp
 ed. But in many places the woods had
 fallen back, and thrifty farms and
 clustered villages are now and then
 seen along the shore, where naught
 but tangled forests once met his
 eye. He had now passed the gigan
 tic State of New York with its 2 million
 inhabitants.

The site of the old fort at Presque
 Isle landing, is recollected. But a
 handsome village bursts ~~bursts~~ upon the
 sight of the old veteran! What is
 this? Have the lefly forrests changed
 to spires and mansion houses?
It is Erie! a flourishing town in
 Pennsylvania, the site of one of the

old cordon of French forts, extending down the Alleghany to Ohio River, at fort du Quesne.

An extensive work ~~fort~~ had been erected on the peninsula, during the late Indian wars; and here, at the foot of the flag staff, the remains of the gallant Genl Wayne were deposited, and afterwards taken up, by his son, and ~~carried~~ conveyed to Chester County in Pennsylvania.

From Erie to the mouth of Cayahoga River, scattered farms and villages are often in view, where nothing but dense forrests are recollected by the old handler. At this place his recollections were distinct, and here he had met a tribe of Indians on his old expectation. But what was his surprise when the saw [] and wharves along the river banks, and a large cluster of houses on the elevated plain to the east. Cleveland he is informed is the name of the busy town. situated in the state of Ohio which now embraces upwards of 937,000 inhabitants—at the time of his former visit, a vast forrest, without a civilized inhabitant. through the

northerly part of which he passed with Major Rogers on his march from Detroit to Pittsburgh in 1760, with no other guide than the compass, subsisting on the abundant game found in the woods. What a change! Is it all a dream!

Leaving Cleveland, the Country west to the entrance of Detroit River, presented many settlements and farm houses, seen through opening of the peaceful immigrant.

At Sandusky bay, a town was laid out, and fast filling with houses and inhabitants; and another at the falls of the Maumee River, where the old soldier had passed it, on his route with major Rogers.

The Country of the haughty Pontiac, the Philip of the west, is now to be traversed. At the mouth of Detroit River our hero had seen the powerful Chief, in his glory. Like Dunrommath in Oithona- "Contempt contracted his face—a smile on his dark brown cheek; his red eye rolled, half concealed beneath his shaggy brows"²

² From *Fingal: an ancient epic poem* by Ossian.

His bossy shield on his side;- his spear like the
~~eye rolled half concealed be~~
 tree of the dissent.
~~neath his shaggy brows~~ But he
 has gone, and his tribes have dwind
 led to a feeble race, no longer
 dreaded by the population spread
 over his country.

Approaching Detroit, the old French
 fields and other features of 1760.
 are fresh in the memory of the old
 hero; and he pointed out the
 sites of bloody contests, with the
 daring Chief, in which he had
 shared. At length landing at a
 spacious wharf, he ascends the ~~high~~
 lofty bank. But what does he
 see?—Not the humble French village
 of 1760, but a City, with crowded
 houses, public and private-
 extended streets and a busy people-
 the Capital of the state Michigan which now con
 tains ~~ing~~ a population of at least
 31,000 civilized people.

The old fort which so long resisted
 the attacks and stratagems of Pon
 tiac, was gone. On the British
 side of the River settlements are
 seen along the bank, down to
 fort Malden- the work of modern

times, rendered
memorable from the abortive
invasion of the unfortunate Genl Hull

Detroit being, the extreme western
post our old soldier had visited
in his excursions under Major Rogers, and believing that he had reached
nearly to the present confines of English settlements, he resolved to
suspend further progress, and
to rely on geographical information from travelers who had penetrated the country further west.

On inquiring for the old posts at
Michillimacinac, Vincennes and
Kaskaskia, he is informed that
an American garrison is ~~still~~
kept at the former now on an adjacent island and that the
two latter are ~~now~~ embraced
within two extensive States, fast
filling with inhabitants, and now
containing in the aggregate a population of about
500,000 civilized people; that the
Country south of the Ohio and
east of the Mississippi, is parceled
out into several states, filling
with inhabitants;- that three
large states and territories,
spread over the Country west

of the Mississippi, the northern of which, Missouri, extending up the River of that name, towards the rocky mountains, contained 140,000 people; and that the former slow and tedious boat navigation on the Mississippi had given place to that of the rapid stream boat; by which large towns and cities in the new world, carry on an extensive trade with New Orleans, and other distant places on the Rivers. Astounded at the information he had received, our hero shrank from further enquiries; and the mythological story he had heard from classical gentlemen; of the creation of a new world by Ducalion and Pyrrha, was no longer deemed a fable.

With increased wonder and admiration at the progress he beheld and the information received ~~from~~ ~~others~~, our old veteran returned to his paternal Hamlet, with the cheering reflection that if the war in which he had spent his youthful days, had not directly produced this flourishing state of the western world it

had, in effect, been instrumental in preparing the way for our independence, which had produced the wonderful change: And ~~in which “the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose”~~, and that by a wise use of the means Providence has placed in our hands, we may become not only a great powerful nation but happy people; and our western desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.”

—These reflections present to the statistical philosopher impartial considerations on the future projects of our Country, and the effects of a wide spread population on our confederacy

And extending his view to future times, he predicted, that by a due use of the means Providence had put into our hands, we may become a powerful people, extending from the atlantic to the Pacific; and aided by the Ameliorating arts of agriculture and science, “the deserts shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.”³; And posterity, purified, tampered and exalted posterity an enlightened

³ From Isaiah 35:1

and happy people
~~and a happy people~~, sitting un-
 der their ~~their~~ own vines and fig trees,
 and none to make them afraid.

The remarks and reflections of
 our war worn veteran present to
 the statistical philosopher, important
 considerations on the future pros-
 pects of our Country; and the effects
 of a wide spread population
 on our confederacy~ Note

In Sketch Book No. 6 page 136
 the foregoing subject has been
 taken up; but here amended
 and enlarged for the purpose of de-
 livery before an association in this
 town. It extends in that No from
 page 136 to 149. to A on 149 page

February- 1838

Monday 12. Fair and cold morn.
 yesterday snow about 1 inch. Clouds afternoon.

Modes of laying out lands in New States
 as adopted by Government.

All tracts are to be limited by meridi-
 ans or parallels of Latitudes, so that the
 lines may be retraced when lost, with-
 out the uncertainty of the needle

In Illinois two principal meridians
 are

are traced; one from the mouth of the Ohio nearly through the middle, the other from the mouth of Illinois river north into Wisconsin to be made a standard for surveys in that territory. Towns are laid into ranges by meridians, and reckoned from them, east or west. A Base line is then fixed at some point on a meridian, from which the townships are numbered north or south, this base is, or ought to be a line of latitude. In describing a township it said to be in such a range and such a number, on the east or west of the meridian, and north or south of a base. Then L3 East and 4 North or 4 West and 6 South. Here it is necessary to name the meridian & base.

This seems to be a good method of laying out a Country and must prevent ~~much~~ subsequent disputes concerning lost boundaries; and I can perceive but one difficulty in it. When the survey is commenced on a base and meridian are run, there will be a converg

ency on the north and a divergency south; and of course a difference will be formed in their acres, but this deviation from parallelism will be small except in great distances, and the differences in the Area may be calculated.

A town is laid 6 miles square, and divided in to sections, or square miles of 640 acres; and if these are divided it is by meridians; and subdivided by parallels &c. For the foundation of these survey, the principal meridians and bases should be carefully traced, by a transit instrument and nicely preserved

The convergency of the meridians may be determined by the following theorem
 Co. S. of Lat.: Co. S. of another Lat.: the length of any Arch on the first Lat. in miles: length of the same arch on the other in miles.

Note Where the convergence is small the Logarithms used in the calculation should extend to more figure than common tables. Example

Thers. Co S. Lat 39°: Co S. Lat 42°.30::6: 5m, 692
 Diff. 0,308= 24 64 links.= convergency

The

The Sections in a town are numbered from the NE angle across to NW; thence back to the east; & thence to the west, alternately ending at the SE angle; and N 16 is appropriated for schools in the township.

Nothing can be more definite than the following. Section 8 L. 6N 164 E. of such a meridian. And thus the land may be described in a deed in a few words-

The towns are not corporate bodies like those in New England; but business is transacted in each County by County Commissioners and others appointed by them, including supervisors of roads &c.

Route

The most direct route to the Central part of Illinois from Deerfield, is by Albany, Utica, Canandiagua, Battavia to Buffalo; then through Lake Erie to Maumee Bay and up to Perrysburgh to the foot of the rapids; there on the Erie ~~Maumee~~ and Wabash Canal to Logansport or Fayetteville and there South westerly into Illinois. The whole distance is about 1000 miles to Paris in the County of Edgar.

The Maume and Wabash Canal is not yet completed, but in progress~
 Were I to carry a family to the central part of Illinois, I would procure a strong waggon and suitable horses, and proceed by Land to Buffalo; there on Board a steam boat to Perrysburg on Maumee river, perhaps sending my horses by land to that place; there on the Maume Canal to Logansport on Fayetteville or some other place on the upper Wabash, thence proceed by land. - Route 2d

On the whole might be put on Board a freight boat at Troy, or opposite, and proceed to Buffalo; there by steam boat to Perrysburg & the canal as before described. This would be a water passage nearly the whole route.

The whole journey I think might be made within 14 days, and the cheapest possible route (or take water at Rochester)

By furnishing his own provisions on the route, the emigrant would lessen his expense

Note. The journey should be made in the autumn (September and October) when the roads are dry & provisions and forage plenty.

Tuesday 13 Coudy morn

Afternoon snow.

Last evening received from my Son Arthur a pamphlet containing an abstract of the proceedings of the Board of Commissioners of Public Works of the State of ~~the State~~ of Illinois.

(December Session 1837) From which it appears that Survey, have been made in various parts of the State the past year, for Rail ways.

Reports are inserted from a Number of Engineers, and contracts are to be offered for 266 miles for the year 1838.

Arthur is styled Principal Engineer for the Eastern Engineering District

In a Report to Genl. M.K. Alexander under Commissioner of the District, he says "From Paris to Charleston, 27 miles, the line is straight; and as the grade descends from Paris to the Embarrass River, and ascends again to Charleston, a telescope at either depot will command a constant view of the entire road between the two points- an advantage which but few roads possess."

He makes an estimate of the construction of the roads he has surveyed during the season, from which it appears the cost per mile (~~on an average~~) will be about (at a minimum) \$9737,89: including Bridges &c. \$4188,49, the minimum.

These estimates must necessarily be exceedingly uncertain.

Illinois in her zeal for improvements has projected works much beyond her power to complete at present, as it appears to me.

The canal from the River Illinois to Lake Michigan should be her first object as opening trade with the other Lakes and atlantic states; and when her surface is overspread with well cultivated farms, her railroads may be commenced, but upon a limited scale. By her present career there is danger of contracting a debt which will press severely upon the landed interest of the state, and thusly retard its settlement which would be an unfortunate circumstance
A rail road from the foot of the Wabash canal SW to the Illinois seems to be all that is now required.

Wednesday 14 Variation of Needle
 Fair morn & small snow yesterday and
 last night Say 2 inches—Clear day.

Observed Variation of Needle at Chesterfield

Mr N.R. Wild of West Winchester
 N.H. in a Letter Feby 5 1838, sends
 me the variation of the magnetic
 Needle, taken by his Father at Ches
 terfield N.H. as follows.

1812	6°..2L W	1824	6°-40'N
-- 13	6-25	25	6-35
-- 14	6-17	26	6..35
-- 15	6-7	27	6-45
-- 16	6-3	28	6..52
-- 17	6..2	29	7..00
-- 18	6..0	30	7..06
-- 19	6.3	31	7..10
-- 20	6..0	32	7..15
-- 21	6.7	33	7..30
-- 22	6.12	34	7..35
-- 23	6.30	35	7..45

The above, he says, are mean vari
 ations averaged from many trials
 in each year.

At St Johnsbury Vt, last July
 he found the variation 12°--40' and
 at Barton Vt 10°--51.

From these results it appears

the

Variation of Needle

needle changed its motion from east to west, in 1820 or 1821, about 8 years after the time I found it changed. viz 1812. He does not state the methods used in determining the variations, nor what sort of an instrument was used.

The results of the years 1816 to 1820 inclusive, are rather anomalous, and must I think have been affected by the diurnal variation; and it is singular that the variation should differ nearly a degree at Chesterfield and Deerfield $6^{\circ}.26$. The year 1811 ~~same year~~ Professor Williams found it 6.01 Rutland, Vt. In 1818 Mr Wild makes it 6° and in 1820 the same; in 1819= $6^{\circ}3'$. It is not to be supposed the needle had such a vibration back and forth, other than by the diurnal variation. Without a careful attention to the needle in consecutive years, may not be detected; and what then Mr Wild regarded it I am not informed. The time (1812) I think is ascertained to the period of the change at Deerfield. Mr.

Mr Wilds variation for 1835 is $7^{\circ}.45$ to which add 12' my quantity for 2 years = $7^{\circ}.57$. agreeing very closely with the variation at Deer field in 1837.

If Professor Williams variation at Rutland in 1811 = $6^{\circ}.01$ was correct, Mr Wilds at Chesterfield in 1812 = $6^{\circ}.26'$ must be too great. In order to determine what confidence is due to Mr Wilds observations it is necessary to know in what manner they were made, the instruments used, his method of reading off the angle. and all the connecting circumstances.

Thursday 15. Cloudy and snowy morn. About 10 oclock sun came out (Snow = $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches) Afternoon cloudy.

Note Through some blunder in the Book keeper, of the Free Press and advocate, Boston, my paper is not found in the Bundle for Deer field this week. I have a receipt up to March 1st 1838 for the paper.

There must be some carelessness in the business, unpardonable. 3 papers are now due me.

Friday 16. Cloudy morn. some snow
last night. Snow storm afternoon
and night Winter now seems in
earnest.

In the midst of the storm I saw a man
leading a poor jaded horse, harnessed to
a wagon in which was a woman & 4
little children: they past on into our
south meadow and whether they found
quarters at night I know not. The
sight of such objects harrows up my
feelings and disturbs my repose.

Shall we say this misery is the
order of Providence? I think not.
Rather I should say a want of
regard to the order of Providence.

By a dim excuse of common
sense, which man possess through
the kindness of Providence, such mise-
ry may be avoided. If we step aside
from all rules of providence, are we to
expect a miraculous interposition to
relieve us? Animals without the
gift of reason seem to be fitted their
condition and they obtain subsistence in
all climates; but of man is not so favored
it is because he has reason given him
by which he can take care of himself. But

But the little ones in this case,
 are sufferers without any agency of
 their own. To this then the order of
 Providence? By no means. It is
 through the indiscretion of the pa-
 rent and he is answerable for
 this indistinction, in the same way
 he would be for leaving his child
 without cover in a cold winter
 night, or by directing it to walk
 on the surface of deep water, by
 which common sense must know
 he would perish.

Providence offers the elements
 of subsistence, and man under the
 guidance of reason uses them, and
 whether for good or evil, depends
 on his discretion.

Let us not then impute to Provi-
 dence the sufferings which we experi-
 ence from our own indiscretion.

This is too often the ~~course~~ error
 of unreasonable men, and should
 be checked by our moral lecturers

Saturday 17. Fair day

Snow fell yesterday & last night
 About 4 inches, and we now have
 about 16 inches of snow, on an average.

Last month on the 17th and several days after not a flake of snow on the ground and the weather warm Of the cause of these variations we can give no ~~very~~ satisfactory account All is conjecture founded on hypothesis. Predictions from the position & phases of the moon are no better: Nor can any thing be predicted from those of the planets, as has been pretended Perhaps if we fully understood all the laws of Chemistry, some clue to predictions on the weather, might be attained. But such knowledge is probably beyond the power of man.

In natural philosophy by long observation, we learn a few of what we call laws of nature and that like causes produce like effects; but the cause of courses is another question. We know that a heavy body projected into the atmosphere will fall back to the earth by a power we call gravity; but what is this gravity we cannot say; and so we know that a magnet will attract iron, but how we know not. But though we cannot explain this attraction, by a knowledge

ledge of the law, we may apply
 it to many useful purposes. Dr
 Franklin, in treating upon gravity
 said, that though he knows not what
 it was, to save his china from break
 ing he knew he must place it up
 on a shelf, instead of the air which
 surrounded him; and perhaps
 this was the most useful know
 ledge that could be learned con
 cerning it.

Then, though man is a limited being
 he is capable of high improvement
 by a due use of the powers given
 him

“Then say not, man’s imperfect, heaven in fault;
 Say rather man’s as perfect as he ought”
 His knowledge measur’d to his state & place
 His time a moment and a point his space.”⁴

Sunday 18 Fair & cold morn
 and clear day

Monday 19 Fair morn and
 cold last night. West wind.

Wrote a Letter to N.B. Wild of
 West Winchester N.H. on the varia
 tion of the needle, in answer to
 one from him (See page 89) and
 touched upon various subjects~
 gave

⁴ From Alexander Pope’s *Essay on Man*, Epistle 1.

Gave him my rule for computing variations on old surveys. Viz.

Up to 1812 compute the variation from date of survey, at the rate of 3 minutes per year; the variation W. decreasing; from 1812 compute it at the rate of 6 minutes per year increasing I place the change of motion in the needle from east to west, in 1812. For a suggestion of the cause of this change, see page 151, in 18th Vol. Edin Encyclopaedia. article Variation taken principally from Professor Hansteen's work on the Magnetism of the Earth. 1819~

Tuesday 20 Fair & cold last night blustering & drifting.

“Ae night the storm the steeples rocked,
Poor labor sweet in sleep was locked,
While burns wi' snawy wreaths up choked,
Wild eddying swirl,
Or through the mining outlet bocked
Down headlong hurl”

“Oh ye! who, sunk in beds of down,
Feel not a want but what yourselves create,
Think for a moment, on his wretched fate,
Whom friends and fortune quite disown!

III

“Ill-satisfy’d keen nature’s clamorous call,
 Stretch’d on his straw he lays himself to sleep,
 While thro’ the ragged roof & chinky wall,
 Chill o’er his slumbers piles the drift heap!”⁵

Burns

Some of these unfortunate people are seen in our neighborhood. We call them shiftless and improvident. They are so in many i[n]stances But do we make due allowances for their circumstances? Some are no doubt poor from mismanagement. Others from a want of industry or a spirit of enterprise. In this Country where lands, especially in the western Country, may be obtained at a cheap rate, it would seem that all might find a comfortable support. But many who would avail themselves of this resource, are unable to remove their families to distant regions, and they remain where they were born and barely subsist. And if they are not Industrious, nor willing to labor, they must be poor let them reside where they may. They are however entitled to our commiseration~ The

⁵ From Robert Burns’ poem *A Winter Night*, 1786.

The wise man while he strives to rise above poverty, looks not to great riches, but contents himself with the blessed mean. If riches offer an easy terms they are not to be rejected; but they are not to be sought with grand eagerness and restless anxiety. Where this disposition exists the moral sense is apt to be overcome and unhonorable standing in society lost; but extreme poverty is perhaps more dangerous. The animal wants are stronger than those of cupidity; and if more crimes are found among the poor than the rich, it is no certain proof that the former are more depraved than the latter. Many a rich man if reduced to poverty would prove a rogue, and many a poor man if raised to riches would at least, appear honest. Let all them endeavor to obtain a competency, by honest and industrious means.

State of Indiana.

In looking over the Geography of the western States as given in Books we notice a want of mountains in

the descriptions particularly such
as are required by those who are
about to emigrate from New-England

Mr Peck has given a pretty full account of Illinois in the last edition of his Gazetteer; but so rapid are the settlements making there that another edition will soon be wanting. The accounts of Indiana are very defective, though I am informed a Gazetteer of that state has recently been published: but it has not met my eye.

In a Report of Capt Ogden to Gen C Gratiot Chief Engineer, published in the documents of the secretary of War at the opening of the present session of Congress, we have some valuable accounts of the surface of the Country of Indiana lying on the Cumberland or National road now under construction.

It seems Capt Ogden has the charge of the road from the east line of Indiana to Vandalia in Illinois. He dates his Report Terre Haute, Octr. 19th 1838. The following are a few extracts: The

“The face of the Country bordering on the road from the Ohio State line to the west fork of White River about 20 miles is undulating & rolling; thence to Indianapolis 52 miles, the face of the Country is generally level, consisting principally of beech flats, which, while wild are wet, and marshy.

The undulating grounds are composed of a succession of hills and valleys, covered with a growth of black walnut, sugar tree, poplar & white oak. The soil is very productive, a rich loam, mixed with sand and clay, when dry firm but when wet very muddy.

The beech flats are divided into higher and lower, and on this division of the road, mainly in equal proportions & about $\frac{1}{4}$ of the distance The higher flats, a white dense and tinacious clay least adapted to the purpose of grazing; the lower flats, dark rich and loose; in wet weather very muddy. The lower are called black swamps and black slashes

On the road from Indianapolis to Illinois state line=76 miles the undulating ground, largely predominate and the beech flats & slashes are no longer found.

For 30 miles west of Indianapolis the country is rich and level, the growth sugar tree, black walnut, poplar white oak and beech & soil well adapted to cultivation; liable to be come wet & extremely muddy.

There to Illinois the country generally undulating; the growth white oak, beech and poplar, & tolerably productive, well adapted for grazing

On the Walbash the Country is mostly composed of level prairie, exceedingly fertile.

Rock rather scarce on the road. Boulders are found in the Country in spherical masses, sometimes on the surface and sometimes imbedded in the earth, a species of granite & very hard. Good building stone not to be found nearer than 30 miles from Indianapolis.”

Indiana is more covered with woods than Illinois. once probably more moist. The vally of the Walbach is very extensive, and contains a vast area of good land. supposed equal in fertility to the Connecticut River meadows~

Wednesday 21. Fair and clear
Day with easterly wind and pretty
cold.

Coztalan

A series of letters are now publishing in the Greenfield paper, signed E L said to be by Dr E. Leffingwell of Montague, containing notices of the Wisconsin territory and Illinois, made during a tour last summer. The author visited the ruins of the Coztalan city as it has been called. About 60 miles west of Milwaukee on Creed Fish Creek, a branch of Rock River. He corroborates the accounts heretofore given; and has procured specimen of bricks & cement found in the place~

I had [] that the previous accounts were fabrications. But the Dr is a gentleman of veracity who would not readily prostrate his character by a false statement. Why do we not hear more of these ruins? A critical examination should be made of the place and every minutiae published in our literary journals. The discovery may throw light on the first peopling of America. The

The writer adds the following notice of the new town of Milwaukee.

It is situated on the River and bay of the same name (Milwaukee) and must become one of the best harbors on the Lake (Michigan) The principal part of the town is about a mile from the mouth of the river.

Two years last June I am told there was but one framed house in the place; now there are between three & four hundred. There is a handsome Court house, several fine Hotels, a large number of stores and many very respectable private dwellings. The principal streets are handsomely graded, and the whole has the appearance of thrift and wealth. It cannot fail of rivaling any place on this lake with the exception of Chicago.

About 2 miles from the Ruins of Coztalan he says, have been discovered in distinctable proof of the remains of an ancient brick yard. From the description given it would appear the area of the ~~place~~ City is about 20 acres. See Gay & Murray Febry 20 1838

Admitting the existence of such ruins, who can doubt that our western Country has been overspread with a race of men much advanced of our present Indians; at least as far advanced as were the Mexicans at the conquest of Cortes.

Mounds of the west

Recently some of our Geological writers have attempted to show that the mounds found in our western country are natural formations by diluvial action. This they infer from their stratified structure, lying horizontally. and suppose them formed either by piling up or they are remnants of tertiary formations that have been mostly removed by rains, floods and deluges.

If this is in fact their structure, the inference would appear rational: but if the accounts given from various examiners may be relied on, this is not the structure of the whole; the bodies of men are often found in them arranged in the most regular order (like the radii of a circle with their feet at the center, piled tier over tier without the least confusion. But if

the mounds in which their bodies are found still show the horizontal stratification in the parts where they have not been disturbed, the existence of the bodies is not conclusive proof that they are artificial. The mounds may have been selected for cemeteries, and the bodies laid in this regular order. But where this stratification does not exist and the earth is promiscuously mixed, the artificial structure is more probable; and if such a race of men once existed in the western Country, as the ruins of Aztalan indicate, it is highly probable that they were the constructors of the mounds of the last description. A more thorough examination of the mounds seems to be necessary to decide the question.

Dr Smith of Boston, in late Lecture on the ancient tumuli of America supposes they were built for the following purposes.

- 1st As temples—high places of worship
- 2d As observatories, for astronomical observations
- 3d As Burying Grounds

4th As Fortifications.

The Dr stated that he should at a future lecture enter into proof that the race who built them understood Astronomy.

What he may say under the 1st 3d and fourth heads, we know not; but on the 2d we think he will not be able to advance any thing very satisfactory. Should the Dr. be able to prove that, like the pyramids of Egypt, the sides of the quadrilateral mounds are accurately adapted to the four cardinal points it furnish but little evidence of a knowledge of astronomy: For it is likely that the rude natives of all northern Countries are aware that the north pole star is at or near the north point of the heavens: they may not however, know that it has a small apparent motion round that point, in 24 hours, though their rude observations might teach them even this fact. Without graduated instruments and time keepers, little more could be learned of astronomy.

Thursday 22 Fair Day.
and cold in morn; but moderate
most of the day.

Death of Osceola –a Chief

This celebrated Seminole chief has been perfidiously captured by Genl Jessup, and confined at Fort Moultrie, on Sullivans Island, in the harbor of Charleston, with several other Indians. On the night of the 26 of January he was attacked with a violent quincy. Drs Weedon and Strobel visited him and offered their services to relieve him. He was bled and an emetic and blister prescribed; but an Indian entering the room who was held in esteem as prophet and a doctor, Osceola refused to take any thing from the physicians, unless the prophet consented; who seated on the floor covered up with his blanket, with all the air and dignity of a great man, refused any application of the physicians. They proposed to scarify the tonsils and apply leaches, but the prophet said no! All persuasion was in vain and the physicians were com

pelled to leave the Chief to his fate,
and he soon died.

Dr. Strobel expressed his opinion,
that he might have been cured
had he submitted to the prescribed
treatment.

From the favorable character given
of this enlightened chief, it is hardly to
be supposed that he had full faith
in his prophet and none in the phy-
sicians; but it is probable he entertained
suspicions of the honesty of the latter.
His perfidious capture was certainly
calculated to create such suspicions.
When Dr. Strobel entered the room the
chief was lying on his blanket before
the fire, his head propped up, and
two Indian women, one on each side;
with warm water, in which some
herbs had been steeped; but the prophet
it seems, trusted wholly to his in-
cantations.

What is man without a know-
ledge of the arts and sciences?
Little advanced above the beasts
of the field, and in some respects
their inferior.

Friday 23. Fair and pleasant Day;

British Troops

The papers announce that 800 British troops ordered from Hallifax to Canada were 7 days without a house or shelter, travelling on snow shoes, and that 41 of the number died and many others were much frozen. The route is not mentioned; but no doubt it was by St Johns River. It is not to be believed that the whole were furnished with snow shoes, or that they could travel on them. A van party on these would beat down a sufficient road for the main body. But their bivouacment have been dangerous; and none but troops habituated to such service could sustain it, without many precautions

Before such a march was commenced the hardy axeman of New Brunswick should have constructed brush huts of hemlock & fir bows at short days marches, and cut and collected fuel for fires. A sufficient number of these night camps might have enabled the troops to ~~traverse~~ perform the march with safety, one Regiment at a time. Provisions

might have been carried at the back, and drawn on hand sleighs by the men. A few Canadian horses with suitable forage might have been useful.

A corps of Russian Cozaks would have thought such a march by no means difficult. Sir Robert Wilson says that after Beningzen's retreat from Poland in 1807, the Russian Cavalry continued in the field 3 months, during the extremist winter, and the horses subsisted wholly on the old thatch stripped from the roofs of the cottages of the peasants; and in the war of 1755, in this Country, out in the woods for several days, in the deepest snows of winter, and sustained the service without the loss of a man. A peace of 20 years has probably reduced the British troops effeminate, and many no doubt are young men who have seen no hard service in the fields.

One or two campaigns in Canada will steel the nerves of all who can bear the process and render them as formidable as in the last war.

Saturday 24 Fair in morn; then
clouds afternoon and a flash of snow
Geological Survey of the State
of New-York

At the session of the Legislature
of that State in 1836, an act was pass
ed providing for a Geological Survey
of the State, under the direction of the
Governor, and the following
plan is adopted for its execution.

The Botanical department is com
mitted to the charge of Dr. John Torrey

The Zoological to Dr. James E.
De Kay

The mineralogical and Chemi
cal to Dr Louis C. Beck.

For the Geological departments
the State is divided into 4 Divisions
or Districts.

The first is committed to the
charge William W. Mather

The second to Prof. E. Emmons

The third to T.A. Conrad

The fourth to Lardner

Vanuseum

Each of the gentlemen is allowed
an assistant or assistants, as their bu
siness may require. In

In February 1837 Governor Marcy communicated to the Legislature [] from the gentlemen employed, containing Reports of the progress made in the several Departments, which are printed in a pamphlet of 212 pages. From the Reports it appears that considerable progress has been made, and that an extended Report is to be prepared, as soon as the work is completed.

A mountain called Whiteface in the north part of Essex County, is found to be 4,855 feet above the level of the sea, as determined by the Barometer by Professor Emmons; and several others still higher in the same quarter he supposes will approximate to the height of the White mountains of New-Hampshire.

The country comprising the north easterly part of the state is found to be abundant in iron ore Viz

- 1 Magnetic oxide of iron:
- 2 Specular oxide of iron & its varieties:
- 3 Bog iron ore

The northern eastern part of the State Professor Emmons thinks, will become

a mining district, and at present many persons are waiting only to be convinced of the prospect of success, to engage extensively in this branch of national industry.

In the central [] of Essex, the Professor says this whole elevated region is traversed with dykes of Greenstone; their width is not usually more than a foot; but in Keene they are from an inch to 10 feet. The discovery, he says, of these dykes in granite or surite, though not entirely new, is one of interest in the ontical geology.

All the reports are written with ability, and evince knowledge of the subject in which they are engaged. The gentlemen of each district seem to have power to conduct the researches upon their own plan; and as the science of Geology is not precisely settled, may there not be found some diversity in their future reports, from following different theories, which will be embarrassing in making up the final grand Report for publication? Note

Note From the Reports that have been made, it does not appear that any extensive beds of fossil coal are found within the State.

The Rossic Lead mine is described as a vein traversing a rock much like neiss in its general character; the width about 4 feet and continues, varying in thickness, between 30 & 40 rods long. Not sufficient lead, has been raised to meet the expense of exploration; and Professor Emmons thinks it will not be productive.

Of the origin of metallic veins by injection from above or below, Mr Vanuseem expresses his doubts. He says that the only satisfactory way of accounting for their origin, is by segregation and lateral infiltration & the metallic and other minerals having been furnished by the rock which encloses the veins.

The doctrine of injection was Werner's and I believe also Hutton's. It is now generally exploded. See Bakewell's Geology of Massachusetts page 520 and other late []

Sunday 25 Fair Day.

The weather for sometime has been pretty cold, steady & good winter weather; the wells are low rendering it difficult to water cattle~

Monday 26 Fair Day with scattering clouds.

In a Letter from my Son Arthur dated at Paris, Illinois Feby 3d 1838, to his sister Isabella, at Boston, he states that the winter there has been very mild, having had but three inches of snow in the whole. But he says the winds that sometimes blow from the Rocky Mountains and the north Pole, sweep over the prairies with a velocity and keenness almost incredible. Indeed he says I think the same latitude here is more tedious than in New England But bleak as are these prairies in the winter, in the summer they are most beautiful. He gives the following description of

A Prairie

Imagine a country as rich in soil as Deerfield meadows, open and level, or gently rising for about

a

a mile to the height of 20 feet, and again descending to the common level, as far as the eye can reach, resembling the light long rolling waves of the ocean, without a single hut or human being within 50 miles of you; and here & there a scattered grove of the deepest green, round which are frequently seen, herds of deer grazing unconsciously of danger; thousands of half wild cattle scattered in every direction, and herds of horses almost as wild as those encountered by Ma Zeppa in his love scrape ride.

“With flowing toil, and flying mane,
Wide nostrils-never stretched by pain
Mouths bloodless to the bit or rain”⁶
With every inch of the ground covered, with thick grass, or [] about

a

⁶ From Lord Byron's *Mazeppa*.

a foot in height, and carpeted
with flowers of every hue and size
from the violet to the sun flower,
and you have a faint idea of a
prairie in the summer. When night
approaches and the way worn traveler
is caught on this wild ocean
he is saluted by the melodious voices
of what he supposes at least a herd
red wolves within 20 feet of him
when perhaps there are no more than
one or two, and they a mile distant.
Often have I heard them howl
round or tents or wagon, where
I would have sworn there was a
hundred within ten rods of me;
but those better acquainted would pronounce
them two or three, and they
half a mile distant.

But

But after a person has travelled over
 those prairies as much as I have, he
 will long for mountain scenery, and
 with Mazeppa say
 “What booteth it to traverse o’er
 Plain forest, river. Man nor beast
 Nor dint of hoof, nor print of foot,
 Lay in the wild luxuriant soil;
 No sign of travel—none of toil.
 The very air was mute.
 And not an insect’s shrill small-horn
 Nor matin bird’s new voice was borne
 From herb or thicket.”
 How long he may remain in Illinois
 he cannot say; but with a poet in
 the Louisville journal he responds
 “I pail thee, for the hopes that rest
 Upon thy destiny
 But O! there is a land afar
 Whose skies to me are brighter far
 Along the Atlantic shore.”⁷

Here appear some breathings
 after the place of his nativity: The
 monotonous aspect of the prairies be-
 comes tiresome, and the rugged hills
 and mountains of New-England seem

to

⁷ From the poem “On Crossing the Alleghenies” by Mrs. L.M. Thurston.

to possess beauties of which those who dwell among them are not conscious Does this proceed from habit and youthful prepossession; or are broken Countries in reality more beautiful than those that are champaign? Bring an inhabitant ~~from~~ born & brought up in the latter to the former, and would he not sigh for his paternal plains? This I think would afford data for deciding the question.

With respect to beauty of forms I have always been skeptical concerning the notion of a standard, aside from utility and early habits; the beauty of colors, however, seem, not to be connected with utility; but here we are far from an agreement on a standard

In judging of the beauty of a Country I should give the preference to that which afforded the greatest means, for the ease and support of its inhabitants. In a flat country the want of water privileges for mills, would be a defect in its beauty; but the uniformity of surface and the ease with which roads are constructed would increase it.

No

No one, I think, can be indifferent to the beauty of a prairie in the summer season: And if in the winter it appears dreary so also do hills and mountains capped with snow, as in New England.

The winds of extended prairie Countries, in the winter, are no doubt an inconvenience, and probably they are more severe than in hilly regions; but in Illinois the snow is much less & winters shorter than in our part of New-England, and the embarrassments from drifting cannot be great. When Illinois is spread over with villages, ~~and~~ farm houses, and fenced into fields, no region, I think, can be more beautiful, To a spectator placed upon a small elevation such as a steeple or any high building, what prospect he will command!

If hills and mountains are not within his horizon he will find no want of other objects. The works of men will appear every direction; and when arts, sciences and pure morality shall produce their ameliorating effects, and bring the people to think and act in accordance with their rational faculties Illinois will appear like an {—} extended

extended Landscape Garden, whose embellishments if adapted to convenience will [] the fanciful taste of the European artist. Half a century hence, the State will probably contain a population of several millions; and many parts of the uncultivated prairies, now destitute of forests, will be shrouded with beautiful groves, furnishing an ample supply of timber for all demands. Even the wet prairies which now seem to forbid cultivation, will at length be drained, and the rich bottoms on the rivers now frequently covered by the water of the freshet, will be reclaimed by the creation of embankments along the river sides, furnishing intervals of inexhaustible fertility.

One inconvenience a want of good well water. Wells may be opened but they will be of considerable depth; but the arts of man will find remedies for this difficulty, as in the lowlands of Holland, and some other countries. Another evil will be found in the Country in its new state & the

prevalence of febrile diseases; but these will cease to be common after the country is thoroughly drained and cultivated. ‡

Will it be said that these are the predictions of a fanciful imagination? Then we appeal to the progressive Geography of all agricultural countries for proofs.

In no part of Europe, even north of our Latitudes, is there found a paucity of inhabitants, nor a want of subsistence where they are industrious; and if our western world should prove an exception, it must be owing to causes beyond the reach of analogy.

 ‡ “The general face of Holland is that of a large marsh that has been chained. Much of the surface is below the level of the sea. The meadows are usually under water in the winter; but the inhabitants in the Spring discharge this water into the canals and ditches by mills invented for the purpose. In the midst of these swamps and marshes, the eye is surprised and delighted to see numerous and important cities and towns rising in quick succession, and all the intervening country wearing the appearance of a continued flourishing village” Morse
 Such will be the appeal of Illinois~

Tuesday 27. Fair; the sun diagonally covered with thin clouds, and the day cold. Sleighing fine. At night closely clouded.

News paper accounts say that a force of 500 of our disorderly people under name of patriots are collecting 7 miles above Detroit, and another of 600 or 800 upon the peninsula of Sandusky, with a design to pass on the ice and attack the frontier of upper Canada. If we have such fellows among us, it is hoped they will make the invasion for we believe this would end their mania, more effectually ~~than~~ than any measures we might take [—]. Our Government in the mean time, should not omit their duty in putting down this mob.

But where is our force; the militia but there are the very men who make up the mob! Will Congress longer neglect to place the militia on a proper foundation! If so, we shall be compelled to resort to a standing army to enforce the laws~

Wednesday 28. (End of Month)

Fair with scattering clouds and moderate weather. The eves drop freely in the afternoon.

This day closes the winter quarter of the year and of course we shall look for warmer weather soon, though of late years, the month of March has exhibited much of the winter aspect.

Thursday March 1~ 1838

Fair and very clear morn; after noon overcast, and at night fair.

This day a number of the gentlemen who feel an interest in the creation of a monument for the massacre of Capt Lathrop's Company at Bloody Brook, held a meeting at Lawrences Tavern in the town and appointed a building Committee to attend to its creation. Viz. Stephen Whitney, Dr. Stephen W Williams, George Davis and Amos Russell. They are authorized to contract with Mr Belding of Pittsfield & Mr Wood of Sunderland for the construction of the monument, at about 300 dollars; the foundation to be laid by the people in Deerfield & such others

as

as are willing to give their aide.
 A model was presented by Mr Woods
 which was adopted, with such variations as the Committee may think proper. The monument to be of Pittsfield marble. The money now raised about 300 Dollars Mr Wood to raise a further sum by subscription if practicable.

By the papers we are informed that a Mr Chilly, member of Congress from Maine, has been killed in a duel at Washington, by a Mr Graves of Kentucky! The particulars not yet received: And this barbarity committed in a Land claiming to be governed by Laws! What a solecism! This crime I venture to predict, will be past over without punishment. and the laws put at defiance: and probably the murderer will be permitted to retain his seat in Congress. Friday 2d. Fair and pleasant day & bright sun. Eves drop plentifully.

A Boston paper notices the disbanding of 6 light infantry companies, but the Governor and Council, caused

by their refusal to apologize for leaving the Common last fall, when the Montgomery Guards made their appearance.

An apology from a Corps of soldiers is to me a new thing! When soldiers disobey orders there is, or should be, laws to punish them. If under no such laws they cannot be called soldiers Had the officers of these companies performed their duty on the common at the time complained of, the shameful desertion of the men would not have occurred. But the fact is, every thing belonging to our militia system is wrong; and the sooner it falls into confusion the better. When this takes place there is a chance for establishing a system upon a military foundation, which the present false show will keep out of sight: And the time which will call for a real military force may be nearer than we apprehend. Our present light corps, especially in our Cities, are but play things merely fit for thick version of children. We have men who would make good officers and

soldiers under a proper system,
 but so long as the former depend on
 the latter for their places, discipline
 is out of the question; and our mili
 tary force is, and will continue
 to be, an empty bubble, excepting
 what is found in our little army
 of 6 or 7 thousand men. No Country
on earth, of the magnitude of ours
is so weak in land forces as we are
 and either an efficient militia or
 a standing army, must be adopted.
 in the United States. A sudden war
 would open our eyes to our danger
Saturday 3 Cloudy morn;- Sun
 out about 9 A.M. and day clear
 and pleasant the remainder- a fine
 day

Sunday 4. Fair and fine
 day; snow slowly wasting. I know
 not whether any trials have been
 made to obtain sap; but I think it
 our soft maples were tapped it might
 run. When I was a lad with several of
 my fellows, we collected sap from our me
 dow maples, and boiled it into sugar
 before the first Monday of March:
 Perhaps 55 years ago. Spring then was
 as forward as now; but more snow.

Contents

Progress of Settlements	65
Laying out land in Illinois	82
Route to Illinois (continued)	85
Report of Illinois Commissioners	87
Variation of the Needle at Chesterfield	89
On imputing our miseries to Providence	92
No data for predicting a change of weather	94
Rule for computing variation of Needle	96
The Poor, remarks on	96
Indiana, state of, notices of the soil of	98
Coztatalan, further notice of, by a Traveler	102
Milwaukee notice of, by the above	103
Mounds of the West, not artificial	104
Osceola, Seminole, Chief, death of	107
British troops, sufferings of	109
Geological survey of the state of N. York	111
Description of a Province in Illinois	115
Remarks on their beauty	118
Prospects of Illinois	121
Monument meeting at Deerfield	124
Duel at Washington (fatal)	125
Disbanding of Light Infantry at Boston	ib
with remarks on	
Canada Insurgents, further notice of	123
Advance of spring, 55 years ago	127

Sketch- Book No 10
From March 4th 1838
To April 21st 1838
Part 3.

March 5th 1838~

Monday 5th Cloudy morn, threatening a storm: Afternoon snow storm (brisk)
 This day is our annual meeting for the choice of Town Officers, a practice which has been followed ever since the first settlement of Massachusetts. The day was formerly kept as a sort of holy-day by minor boys, and each furnished a certain number of eggs for making what was called egg-pop. The eggs were thoroughly beaten into a thin mass, sweetened with sugar & mixed with ardent spirits. It was very pleasant to the taste, but injurious if drank too fiercely. Sometimes Cider was substituted for the spirit and the draught was less injurious. The practice was far from a commendable one, and is now generally abolished.

The choice of town officers is now abolished, (or never was introduced) in many of our states, and all the business is performed by County officers in New-York each town has its Supervisor to see to the business of the town, and he is also a County officer who acts with the supervisors of the other towns in the County, so far as the County is concerned. To

To us who have lived under the New England system, the action of town [] may appear important but on a full view of its operation I am inclined to believe it is not the best: In Counties of a moderate size all the business in relation to its police, may be well performed by County officers, chosen by the people, or appointed by the County Commissioners after they are elected.

In our Town meetings where all have the right to vote, and being necessarily multitudinous, they are not always conducted with much order; and the great variety of opinion which prevails on questions perhaps new to the voters, renders the business confused, tardy, and perhaps some times incorrect, or unlawful. When towns are split into parties disorders increase & the passions are roused to a high pitch much to the injury of the people.

When the police of the County is conducted by County officers, there is less chance for these disorders. If a [] sometimes occur under this system, they are, it is believed, less frequent than where intrusted to multitudinous assemblies.

Of Mr Graves it will be said by
 his brother duelists, he has proved
 himself a gentleman. He may bear
 this title among them, but in whose
 estimation will it be held by the enlight
 ened Philosopher? ~~and~~ If the story
 of the duel, reaches an enlightened com
 munity in more enlightened times
 it will be quoted –as a mark of
 the barbarism of the men of our
 times, as we quote the silly ex
 ploits exhibited in the ages of Chivalry
 How miserable the conduct of Mr
 Graves on this occasion? He a mem
 ber of Congress, carries a challenge
 from Col. Webb, whom Mr Cilley
 thinks is not respectable; and be
 cause Mr Cilley views him in
 that light, Mr Graves makes him
 self the principal in the farce
 Had he been mortally wounded
 in the affray and died a linger
 ing death, no doubt we should
 have heard from him lamentations
 of his folly & condemnation of
 the practice of dueling. Men are
 not so far advanced in refinement
 as we had hoped Congress

Congress has appointed a Committee to investigate the cause which led to the death of the "Hon. Jonathan Cilley." and whether the privilege of the house has been violated."

In debate the house have been told of the danger of the investigation. "The Committee, said Mr [] Johnson must brace their nerves to a contest: he would not serve on such a Committee without being well armed and prepared for collision." Yet We call ourselves a fine nation; if we are so, we are not a very enlightened one.

M Calhoun of Mass. moved to lay whole subject on the table-Lost yeas 75, nays 125 (Greenfield paper) What was Mr Calhoun's object? Was he fearful? We hope not.

Let up look for a more improved State of society, when men will act more worthy of the faculties with which they are endowed.

If gentlemen when injured or offended are not willing to to appeal to the laws; but take revenge into their own hands, then let them be deprived of laws & adopt the savage

mode of deciding disputes. But if they prefer this mode, let them withdraw from civilized society, and reside with those of congenial minds. If they prefer the savage state they should pass the Rocky mountains and form connections with the men whose mind and whose attainments are of a similar cast.

A Report is in circulation that Col. Webb has been challenged by Mr Duncan of Ohio, and that the parties were to fight on Monday last. This supposed to have grown out of the duel of Cilley & Graves. This I think is rather doubtful, and if true, probably no battle will occur. Notified duels seldom generally end in smoke~

Many accounts continue to be found in our papers, concerning the Canada insurgents, who by the way, are all found on our side of the line, and several military arsenals within the State of New York are said to be broken open and plundered by these fellows

Canada will soon receive a strong military force from England which will put an end to threats of the [] duty men, if we do not do it ourselves.

Wednesday 7. Cloudy morn
about 9 A.M., snow began and continued
gently through most of the remainder of
the day, but so moist as to melt about as
fast as it fell~ New-Book

Specimens of Foreign Standard

Literature: Edited by Rev. George
Ripley of Boston. Two Vols of
this work have just from the press of
Hilliard Gray & Co. price \$1.25 per
Vol. to be continued occasionally.
The work is to contain a series of
translations from the German & French
relating to Philosophy History and
Theology. The vols. out respectfully
noticed in the papers, and the
notes by the editor recommended.

See a prospectus of the work page
61. No 9 of our Sketch Book.
Coming from German and French
writers, the work may contain
much that will be rare to us in
this Country, where we have few
readers of the French and none of
the German. The works of the eminent
men of those nations ought to be more
extensively translated into our language; &
more diffused in our Country. No useful
knowledge should be under lock & key~

Thursday 8. Cloudy morn. and thawing weather, which has prevailed for several days; Snow in afternoon,

Mr Grennell our member of Congress sends me Mr Hassler's Report on the survey of the Coast of the United States and the progress he has made in the fabrication of standard Weights & measures.

The triangulation is made with the new Theodolite of 30 inches diameter. Which Mr Hassler thinks exceeds for accuracy, any instrument ever constructed. At his station points he places Heliotropes, which show the reflection of the sun's rays from a point, even through a haze, when the outline of hill on which they are placed, cannot be seen.

Ledges of Rocks hitherto unknown are said to be discovered, dangerous in low weather, in Long Island sound.

Friday 9. Cloudy morn – Snow yesterday & last night 3 inches—
Most of the day fair~

Saturday 10 Fair and thawing day;
the sun bright & Roads full of water.

On the murder of Mr Cilley at Washington by Mr Graves and his accessories, it gives one some satisfaction to find ~~that~~ of our Newspapers independent enough to speak of the transaction in terms of just indignation, [] the threats of some of the chivalric blood hounds. Col Webb of New-York is spoken of in bold terms, in defiance of his bloody threats which he has given out, in defiance of the laws.

But what a contrast is here seen between the conduct of the press in this case, and that when Capt Morgan was kidnapped and murdered by a Clan of freemasons, in 1826. Their conduct then was most disgraceful and ought never to be forgotten, and will not be forgotten by the honest part of the community. Let the subservient dupes to the secret order reflect on their conduct in the latter case, and if they can, reconcile it with an honest course, they must possess more art than it is believed they do possess. If the laws in this case could be trampled in the dust, who will be surprised
to

to find it so in the murder of
 Mr Cilley by one of his brethren in
 Congress? Oh my Country! – boast
 no longer of a Government of law:
 talk no more of our elevation above
 the savage state! And learn that
 &c

“Who wickedly is wise, or madly brave,
 Is but the more of a fool, the more a knave”

It is reported that a Brother of the
 deceased, who was an officer in Col.
 Miller’s Regiment in the late war &
 in the Battle at Lundy’s lane, has
 gone to Washington; and being a
 military gentleman it is conjectured
 he may seek an opportunity to
 try his skill with some of the mur-
 derers of his brother. I should re-
 gret such an occurrence, as another
 defiance of the laws. If Mr Graves
 and his accessories can escape with
 impunity, it is proper that the peo-
 ple should know it. When it is found
 that murder can go unpunished
 by our laws, then it may be necessary
 for the people to take measures to
 protect themselves. Let us hope such
 a time will never arrive.

Sunday 11. Fair day, and partially cloudy & thawing. Good sap weather.

Monday 12. Fair & bright morn, & the day very pleasant.

I am informed the sugar makers are now tapping their maples in the upland towns, and if the present weather holds long, it must be a good sugar season. The quantity of sap drawn from a sound healthy tree is surprising.

Dr Williams the Vermont historian states that a man much employed in making sugar, informed him that for 21 days together, one of his maple trees discharged 7 ½ Gallons each day; and a large Birch ran at the rate of 5 Gallons an hour when first tapped; eight or nine days after, it discharged at the rate of about 2 ½ gallons per hour, and at the end of 15 days the discharge was nearly of the same quantity. The whole quantity discharged in 4 or 5 weeks was estimated at 60 barrels.

Whence this quantity of fluid?

And what an evaporation must be produced by the trees of a large forest?

The Dr made some curious experiments

to determine the quantity of evaporation from an acre of forest trees, and the result was, that in 12 hours 3875 gallon were thrown into the atmosphere.

See History of Vermont Vol. 1 p. 91

Whether an equal quantity is supplied from an acre of surface covered with grass or other vegetation has not been determined to my knowledge.

If the result of the experiment of Dr Williams may be relied on, who will doubt that the clearing of a country from its forests, must have a natural effect upon the atmosphere.

The Dr also made experiments to determine the different degrees of heat in the earth in open and covered grounds, and gives the following result. Exposing the land to the full force of the solar rays in this Latitude (Rutland, will produce a heat at the depth of 10 inches below the surface 10 or 11 degrees greater than that which prevails in the uncultivated Country and this effect, he says, continues while the solar rays are sufficient to increase the heat of the Earth. See page 74 same Vol. Hence

Hence it might be inferred, that a country cleared of its woods, would become warmer than one covered with trees. But are there not ~~other~~ contracting causes to produce a different effect? May not this increase of heat produce a greater evaporation, in the absence of the sun, and thereby render the earth colder, in the morning, than if the heat had been less during the day. The effects of evaporation in producing cold are well known; and where the ground is moist, there can be no doubt that the evaporation must be greater than where the ground is dry, provided the heat be sufficient. By experiments made by Dr. Wells, of England, it appears that the radiation of heat from the {—} surface of the open fields is greater during clear nights than where the earth is covered by trees.

From these facts it appears to me possible that land cleared of its woods, may become cooler than that covered with trees; and therefore that our summers may be decreasing in heat, as is found by observation. Dr

Dr Williams History of Vermont was first published in one volume, and published at Bennington It is now, I believe, become rare in our Bookstores and should be republished in a [] equal its great merits, with a continuation of the History of Vermont down to this time. Among the histories of the States more appear to me so valuable.

In the evening of this day, the Rev. Mr Brooks of Hingham entertained an audience at the Brick school House with extracts from his journal to Italy in 1834, describing the pompous exhibition at one of the Pope's holy weeks at Rome. The display was of the most extravagant kinds, and exactly calculated to produce what are falsely called religious impressions on those who are incapable of a religion founded on reason and peace sentiment- Will mankind even be so enlightened as to embrace trational Christianity? We fear not. Divested of mystery & show, it has few charms for the ignorant; and when clouded

with the absurdities of the orthodox system of the present day, its effects on morals are little better.

With me it is a question whether the Roman Catholic system, with all its absurdities & [], is more pernicious, on the whole, than protestant orthodoxy, when [] ed to its full length. Both are hostile to scientific improvements and the common sense of unadulterated minds. The history of the former presents a bloody course, and whether the latter, had it power, would not commit equal enormities is to be seen. In a Country where the civil authority has no power over the consciences of men, it would seem that there is little danger of persecution from religious belief or disbelief; yet a fanatical clergy may do much in misleading the uninformed; but their influence is limited and always checked by the enlightened part of community. Knowledge then is our safeguard, and therefore it is the duty of good men to aid in its diffusion~

Tuesday 13. Fair and fine day

If my recollection is correct the weather resembles that of March 50 years ago; then the transition from winter to spring was quick and very different from that of late years.

This day recd the 1st No of the Illinois Statesman, published at Paris by Loveless & Delay dated February 23, 1838. The same gentleman recently printed the Danville Engineer at Danville in Vermillion County, for which I was a subscriber, through the agency of my Son Arthur, who paid for the paper for one year, which I refunded to him when he was last at Deerfield.

A writer in this paper supposes that Cairo, land out at the junction of the Ohio & Mississippi at the southern point of Illinois will become a place of Great Business, as soon as the central rail road from that place northerly shall be finished; The Mississippi from that place, he says, is open for heavy boats at all seasons of the year and will have an unobstructed trade with New Orleans, which is not the case with places on the Ohio & Mississippi

above.

Alton, he says, is becoming what Cincinnati is to Ohio, the “pork market of the State,” and he predicts that Mount Carmel near the rapids of the Wabash will be the Rochester of New York: for at this place will be found the best water power in the West.

According to Peck, the Country around Mt Carmel is high, undulating, healthy, and contains an extensive settlement of industrious farmers. In the place 10 stores, 2 taverns & a third in course of preparation 1200 inhabitants; 3 steam mills, on ox tread mill; mechanics and trades of various descriptions; a foundry for castings for machinery &c. From 31st of March to 12th of April 1837, 26 steam boats arrived & departed. Works are now constructing to render a passage up the rapids of Wabash easy.

So many points on the waters of Illinois, present for towns and Cities, or places for trade, that it is difficult to say which is likely to be the most commanding. But it is certain that so long as steam boats are used in Navigation the whole state will find opening for trade at

numerous points and ready communications with the seaboard by New Orleans, or Newyork; and the interior position of the Country can hardly be an objection to it in the mind of an immigrant.

Without the inventive genius of a Fulton what would have been the condition of the country on [—] the upper Mississippi and its confluent waters? The settlements would have been delayed for a long time; the country remained the heart of the savage and wild beasts for ~~many~~ years to come; and the fertile bottoms & prairies left to pour forth their [] [] vegetation to the passing winds & surrounding solitude without the cheering sounds of civilization, or the enlivening scenes of farm houses, villages and cities, the abodes of competency & wealth which now appear in many parts of State.

Wednesday 14- Fair and pleasant, and warm~ Summer birds begin to appear, among which is the Blue Bird giving in “his soft pleasing warble on

the fences and barn tops” and seeking “the hole in the old apple tree, the cradle of some generations of his ancestors,” as Wilson very appropriately describes the first appearance of that early bird.

The annual immigration and emigration of the feathered race, is a curious provision of nature, ~~and~~ not yet well understood. We suppose at the approach of winter they wing their way to the warm southern regions, and in the spring, return to their former summer residence. Many proceed to high Northern latitudes, at the opening of Spring, where they rear their young, and in the fall season conduct them back to their winter residence. They move in flanks, in pairs, or singular~

Some we know move in vast flocks

This is the case with Pigeons. I well recollect seeing these birds passing over us from the north in the fall season, in flocks, or rather extended lines, in such numbers as to defy all calculation. These lines often extended from our east to the west mountains

and probably much further, in a pretty exact alignment, and depth of file (to use a military phrase) and I think I am correct when I say, as many as half a dozen of these lines were in sight at the same time. Their number must have been immense.

In the Spring season they were also seen in vast flocks moving northward though not so numerous as in the fall, of late years they have diminished ~~in numbers~~ and in some seasons very few are seen; and our young people can form but a very imperfect conception of their former numbers. In the western regions probably they are still numerous, and will remain so until the destroyer man shall over spread the country, and rob them of their food which nature has furnished there in uncultivated countries. And here they find a check to their multiplication! for no more can exist than can procure food necessary for their support. Hence as man increase and cultivation spreads, they must decrease.

Thursday 15 Fair day and warm—snow wastes fast.

Friday 16. Cloudy, but sun occasionally seen.

A pamphlet containing a Report on the annexation of Texas to the United States by a Committee of our Legislature, has been sent by our Senator James C. Alvord Esqr. of which Committee he was Chairman.

The Report I understand was written by Mr Alvord, and has been adopted by our Legislature, a copy to be forwarded to each of our Senators & Representatives in Congress, and to each of the Executives of the several states~

Accompanying the Report is a Resolve with a preamble touching the subject of an annexation; the resolve ends as follows: “that no act alone, or compact made for such purpose (the annexation) by the Government of the United States, will be binding on the States, or the People.”

The main position taken in the Report is that Congress have no constitutional power to admit into our union, any foreign Nation or people,

and I think the position ably sustained, and that the report throughout is a valuable document containing principles of great consequence as connected with the Union and welfare of the States. The distinction between a purchased territory and an independent state is clearly pointed out; and it is evident that in the latter case, an annexation cannot be effected but by consent of the people who form our confederacy. The Report I think will have a salutary effect, and open the eyes of the Northern States to their interests. The pamphlet comprises 39 octavo pages, handsomely printed.

Saturday 17—Cloudy day—indicating snow or rain. In many places the ground is now destitute of snow and the roads muddy.

For several days past our people have gathered sap from the maples in front of my house and boiled it down to sugar and molasses. The process is easy and rapid, [] the product sweet & pure. A

maple orchard on a farm is a valuable appendage, as from it, a family may supply sugar & molasses sufficient for their own use, and in good seasons a quantity for market. Perhaps [] beverage is more wholesome than pure water duly sweetened with maple molasses or maple sugar, especially in the hot seasons, and to the taste it is very agreeable particularly to stomachs that have not been injured with ardent spirits. The saccharine principle seems to be peculiarly fitted for the stomachs of human beings. Children are universally fond of it, and in the West Indies the negroes can subsist on the juice of the sugar cane with little other food; Some other animals also feed on it. According to Parkes liquor is composed of the following substances; Carbon 28, Hydrogen 8, and Oxygen 64, parts of 100~ These substances combined in different [] [] form other substances; such as [], resins, Gums & wax. Nitrogen and lime also enter into some of these compounds.

Sunday 18. Cloudy & a small fall of snow, through the day.

Monday 19. Fair day, Yesterday's snow gone, and the old diminishes. Grisly winter seems to be withdrawing from the approach of the clear sun which we have had for some time, and if it returns with increased force, and again covers the ground with its snowy flow its reign must be short; for the sun will soon pass the equinox and give us 12 hours of day. At this time its cheering rays may be extended to the North pole, though, in fact, below its horizon. Refraction in the cold atmosphere of the frigid regions, and this may give the sun a small altitude at the poles when on the equinox.

Illinois Rail Roads

From the Illinois Statesmen I learn that part of the routes surveyed by my son Arthur, were contracted for on July 22d; ~~and on March 1st another poor~~ [] was to []. The Bridge over Vermillion River by IH Cushing of New Hampshire, and Breed and

Livingston of Lowell Massachusetts
 The two last have charge of the Stone
 work, and ~~the first~~ Cushing of the wood. Cushing
 is the same architect who built the
 main Bridge on the Rail Road Arthur
 constructed at Bangor. The Road from
 Terre Haute by Paris was to be put
 under contract at the latter place, on
 the 1st of March. Breed, it is said,
 has returned home to procure Yanky
 workmen, the Illinoisians being raw
 at the business. The two routes are
 18 miles each, making 36, and with
 two large bridges, one on each route,
 there may be work for several years.
 It is said money has been obtained
 by Illinois sufficient to complete
 the whole of their internal projects,
 which appears to me very doubt
 ful. No State in the Union has
 projected so extensive lines of roads
 as Illinois; and should it come to
 a halt before the whole are finished
 it would not be unexpected by me.
 A direct tax on the lands of the State
 to carry on the works, would strike
 a dead blow, and suspend them at
 once. This may be the conclusion.

Tuesday 20 Cloudy morning
and fair afternoon & warm.

The Greenfield paper of this day announces the Death of Nathaniel Bowditch LLD of Boston, on Friday the 16th instant—no particulars of his sickness. In the death of this Great man science has sustained a loss that will not soon be made up. Unassuming & retired as he was, the busy world knew little of him: It was only the learned Philosopher, the deep mathematician and profound astronomer who could [] estimate his vast mind, and penetrate his deep principles of Astronomy he was second to none, since the death of Laplace, whose great work, the Mécanique Céleste, he had for several years been translating and publishing in the United States. Some of the Vols. in 4 to. I have seen, but know not whether he had completed the translation. If we cannot attain his [] elevation, let us imitate his virtues.
Mourn thy son Massachusetts!

Wednesday 21. Dark cloudy morn
with a fall of moist snow. At 11 oclock
A.M. Sun out, and fair & fine day.
Equinoctial Day, and change of suns
declination from south to North.
(~~Blackbirds are seen~~) sun visible
at each pole; days & night equal; sun
rises in the east and sets in the west
points of the horizon ~~nearly~~ and
his meridian altitude = Co. Lat. of
Deerfield = $47^{\circ} 28'$. Strictly these aspects
{—} are found only when the sun
is in the equinoctial point, ~~and~~ and
no allowance for parallax & refraction
be supposed to effect them.

The early birds, such as the blue &
blackbird have been seen, and but
a small quantity of snow is left on
the ground.

Thursday 22. Fair but hazy
day throughout

Friday 23. Cloudy morn at
tended with fog, and the same
weather continued through the
day.

From a biographical notice of
Dr Bowdith in a Boston paper

it appears he was born at Salem on the 26 of March 1773: he commenced the translation of La Place's Mecanique Celeste in 1815, but he was not able to complete the final revision of the whole of this great work. A few days before his death he corrected the proof sheets of the 4th Vol. The 5th and only remaining vol. is, it is said, comparatively of little importance, and it would probably have had but slight revisions, even had he survived.

Dr Bowditch was a member of various learned Societies in Europe and America. In his native state he had for several years been the President of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, which is indebted to him for a large share of the reputation it has enjoyed.

In the death of this great man we have lost our greatest ornament and the science of Europe will ~~will~~ join us in putting on the [] of mourning When shall we see another Bowditch! Ah When!

Small pox among the Indians

By accounts from the West we are informed that this fatal disease has spread among the Indians of the western territory and populous tribes are in some instances almost entirely cut off; and that the disease is spreading far and wide over the extensive regions ~~further west~~ probably to the Pacific ocean. The suffering, of these wild sons of the forest, as represented by several of our traders residing among them, are distressing to humanity. That this disease should occasionally spread among them is not strange; and from their want of a knowledge of the mode of healing it, we might expect that it would be very destructive. Some efforts have been made, I believe, by our Government, to introduce the vaccine inoculation among them but it difficult to persuade them of its importance. Jealous as they are of us, they cannot readily believe that we would extend to them any efforts for their happi

ness and prosperity; and perhaps in some instances, they have too much ground for such impressions.

Notwithstanding what our visionary poets have sometimes sung of the happy modes of Indian life, I think it must be admitted, that their condition is on the whole, is pitiable, and will continue so, until the arts and sciences are spread over their country by civilized [].

From the discovery of the many works of art found in the western regions, we are led to believe that in former times the population of the Country must have been more numerous than at the present, ~~time~~ if not in a higher state of improvement; and may we not suppose that the small pox has heretofore spread among them, and in its course, depopulated the Country!

Man endowed with reasoning faculties is capable of vast improvement; but his happiness depends on the right use of these faculties; and where these are

neglected he is less happy than the brute that acts from blind instinct, in which nature kindly leads them to all that is necessary for their subsistence and compact. Hence then the importance of improving the faculties of the human mind are obvious. Reason is the pole star of man, instinct that of the brute.

I am not however certain, that the latter are entirely destitute of some reasoning faculties, as we see in the ~~the~~ dog, the monkey, the horse and some other animals; but whenever these faculties are found instinct becomes a less motor. In the infant, instinct governs; but when its reasoning powers begin to prevail the former gives way to the latter, and the adult acts from his own volition, except in his involuntary functions, which have their origin in another source. How important then is the reasoning faculty? Without thee, what were man!- With thee, if duly cherished an devoted being;- “the noblest work of God.”

Saturday 24 Cloudy & foggy
morn, with a little rain, before noon
the sun appeared and the day fair
but a hazy sky.

Lansford Stebbins son of Major
Stebbins of this town writes to his
friends from New Deerfield, March 4th
a new place so named in Shelby County
about 20 miles north of the United
States Road. He says the site of
the town is an elevation, very pleas
ant, he calls it a mound, and says
that Arthur (my son) is to build
a mill (suppose a saw mill) this
season. The land he represents
is good as any in the world. The
settlers of Illinois from the south, live in a
very plain style on pork and home
ny and are rather indolent; The Yankees
he says are getting rich, raise
every thing in abundance, and
have large stocks of cattle, hogs and
many horses, which are pastured
on the prairies. Another class of
the people he calls speculators
(or sharp shooters) apparently
civil & polite, but ready to take advent
age in bargains. His brother

Dennis, he states, has gone to the land office at Vandalia to enter a tract of land for himself and Arthur: of course government land.

Many of the people he represents as possessing a sort of fear of the Yankees: but if you call at their houses at night and want entertainment they readily furnish what is wanted and will spare even their bed clothes to accommodate a stranger. A Company of Yankees would soon put a social face on a tract they should occupy & cultivate.

A people possessing no diseases above those of animal gratification, must necessarily be a dull unsocial set of beings, fitted rather for the society of dogs and horses than enlightened men. The mental appetite must be created before the ~~the~~ blessings of social intercourse can be felt in their vigor. When this has become keen, men are full of enquiry and curiosity & ~~they~~ are soon ~~become~~ agreeable associates. Dr Moore in his travels ~~through several states~~

in Europe relates an anecdote of
 a plodding Dutchman which gives
 a striking [] of those
 who possess no social taste.
 He was travelling in a stage with
 a number gentlemen, one whom
 was a Dutchman who ~~would not~~ was unable to
 converse in English. The Dr with
 his social feelings regretted, that he
 could not be entertained with the
 conversation of the silent gen
 tleman. This being interpreted to
 him by one of the passengers, he
 replied that he should like
 to ~~learn~~ understand the Drs conversation;
 but as it [—] there was
 no ~~business transaction~~ trading concern between
 them ~~and the Dr he thought~~
 a [—] the want of ability to converse with him, was
 not to be much regretted. Deliver
 me from such torpidity!-
 Our Yanky character is free
 from this narcotic ingredient:
 and if our garrulity sometimes be
 comes tedious it is seldom
 destitute of good feeling.

Sunday 25. Fair day & N W wind
Sun bright but air rather cool, and
sap runs more freely than in a warm
day. The rationale of this process of
nature I do not yet understand.

Attendance of heat and cold,
seem to be necessary for the produc-
tion of the sap: and why is this?

Monday 26. Fair day with some
haze afternoon. The snow in our
valley is seen only in patches; it
has melted away by the warmth
of the suns rays without the aid
of rains which have been very
rare during the winter, and the
springs low.

As the snow and rains have been
small during the past winter, and
if it be true that about the same quan-
tity of aqueous matter feeds annu-
ally, may we not look for a wet
summer this year? This would
seem to be the result from the
premises.

Tuesday 27 Cloudy day & full of
moist snow, melting as it fell.

Indian mode of Fortification

In

In an action with the Florida Indians on the latter part of January in which Gen Jesup commanded, the Indians occupied ground on the side of a creek, which they had fortified as follows: They mortised holes in the trees, set up pickets and palmettos so as to cover themselves, forming blinds, and cleared away the hammocks on the side where Jesup attacked. The blinds prevented a sight of the enemy, but he beat them from their works, and sustained a considerable loss: the Gen. was wounded in the face. The Indians are said to have been well furnished with ammunition and provisions.

In this protracted war, these Indians have shown that they are not only brave, but ~~they~~ possess resources of art equal at least to ~~with~~ those of their opponents.

Illinois & Michigan Canal.

A disturbance has lately occurred among the workmen on this canal Mr James Brooks a Contractor had in his employment a large number of Irishmen, one of whom

he discharged and paid off. This irritated the others ~~workers~~ and a party made an attempt on Mr Brooks with an intent to take his life; a conflict ensued in which Brooks discharged a pistol and wounded one of the rioters. A large party then collected, attacked & destroyed Brooks office, but he escaped & applied to a Magistrate for a warrant to arrest some of the leaders: and with the assistance of a body of militia from Chicago and other places 13 of the Irishmen were taken & submitted to the authority of Wills County.

These labormen are a useful set of men, if they can be managed; but this is found to be difficult task. In general they are extremely ignorant and liable to sudden gusts of passion, when nothing short of military force will reduce them to order. Whenever they are employed in large numbers, the militia of the neighboring country should be well armed and ready to turn out on short notice. For

For the [—] management of soldiers in an army it is found necessary to employ a considerable number of Non-Com missioned officers who receive higher pay than the soldiers. These are carefully selected, of steady habits & firmness of character, who have charge of squads in their several companies.

By living with the men, and entering into their concerns as friends & protectors, they acquire great influence over them, and thereby keep them in due order in the most critical times. May not a scheme of this kind be found useful in the management of the large bodies of Irishmen employed on public works? If a few faithful men could be found among them and higher wages paid them, while they perform their duty will, might not the disturbances which frequently occur be avoided?

The only difficulty in this plan, is to find those among them who are gratified for the duty of such non com missioned officers~

Wednesday 28 This morning
snow of an inch covers the ground,
the air cold, and atmosphere cloud
ed through the day.

Thursday 29 A brisk fall of snow
in the morning & about 4 inches in depth
at 9 o'clock. The remainder of the
day continued cloudy, with occasion
al falls of snow, though the sun was
now and then seen.

Eulogy on Dr Bowditch

John Pickering has been appointed
by the American Academy of Arts
Sciences to deliver this Eulogy, probably
at the annual meeting in May next.

This gentleman ranks high in Boston,
as a literary man, but of his know
ledge of the abstruse sciences I am
uninformed. If he does justice to
subject he will render an essential
service to science; and it is hoped the
Eulogy will be published in a pamphlet
and not locked up in the Vols.
of the society, of which we are un
able to obtain a perusal in the
country. Our Library company
in this town possess the 1st Vol but
have not been able to procure the others.

nor have I been able to find them
 in the Boston Bookstores, which I
 have thought rather singular. Are
 they printed only for the members?
 The society, though an important
 one, is little known in the Country.
 and the members are unknown.

Of the Royal Society at London

We have more information

From its institution up to 1800 the
 society had published 90 Vols in
 cluding the year 1800; and if we add 1 Vol
 per year since that period the present
 number will be 127, all in 4 to
 what a mass of science, and
 how much the world is indebted
 to the institution for its labor!

In 1812 the History of the Society from
 its institution to the year 1800, was published
 in London by Thomas Thompson
 MD one of the members in which
 we have a condensed account of
 the 90 vols. then in print. The
 history is comprised in 1 Vol 4to a
 valuable work which I have
 in my private Library. It is hoped
 it will be continued on the same
 plan.

Friday 30. Fair morn, but the sun obscured most of the day. Snow fast dissolving-westerly wind.

Saturday 31. Fair and clear day- with a westerly breeze- Our sap trees continue to flow, though moderately, but it seems to possess less of the saccharine principle than that of the first flow. This seems to be known to sugar makers, who, towards the close of the sugar season, boil the sap to molasses instead of sugar

On the rationale of the rise of sap in trees we have expressed our inability to decide.

In Thompson's history of the Royal Society, page 59, the question of the rise of sap is examined and the various hypotheses which have been proposed detailed; and the conclusion is, that the ascent of the sap is owing to some power exerted in the living vegetable, but what that power is we are still entirely ignorant. Our knowledge of this process of nature, the author says, is at present, nearly in the same state

~~that~~ as that of Anatomists with respect to the animal fluids before Harvey's great discovery of the circulation of the blood.

A more full knowledge of the structure of trees may perhaps enable us to explain the cause of the rise of the sap, and some future Harvey may make the discovery.

On the Structure of vegetables, see Vegetable Physiology in the Library of Useful Knowledge. No. 14 Novr. 1827.

Sunday April 1- Fair day;
our last snow almost gone;
westerly wind and air cool.—

Monday 2- Fair and cold {—}
and westerly wind. Universally when westerly winds prevail at this season, the air is cold, and it is highly probable the Hoosac range of mountains in some way produce this temperature. An account of the weather and winds on the east and west side of the mountain, on corresponding days, is wanted, by which some data could be furnished for investigating the question relating to the mountain influences.

I am inclined to believe a descent of the upper air over the mountain, would often be found [—] where our westerly wind prevails; and that an easterly wind could some times be found on the west side, where the westerly blows here. Being at Bennington a few years ago I noticed that the Cow houses in the farmers yards were erected with their open sides facing the west, and on enquiring why thus placed ~~in this direction~~ was told that gusts of wind often rushed from the mountain and overturned these buildings, when facing the mountain. These gusts are probably acquired by the descent of the upper air of the mountain, and particularly at the time of Thunder showers in the summer season.

Tuesday 3d. Fair with cold westerly wind Our street is now so dry as to render walking on the sidewalks good.

In a letter from Arthur, my son, to Franklin Hoyt dated Paris March 19th 1838, he says he has entered a tract of land in Township 9 N,

Range 4, East of the third principal meridian; situated between Vandalia & Shelbyville, about 5 miles from the Kaskaskia, and between Brush Creek and Richland Creek; as wild as the Arabian deserts; but as rich as mud, surrounded with timber of the best kind, and is capable of being made a perfect garden. Let D Stebbins & James Harvey have pitched their camps upon it; the latter has a good log house with two rooms & two Chambers. A better location, he says, cannot be made in Illinois.

His intended break up 300 Acres of prairie this summer to build a mill and burn a brick kiln.

He offers land to Deerfield and grants who wish to settle on the land, and will sell the broken prairie if they desire (or ploughed)

To immigrants from this quarter he recommends the route by New-York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and thence by water to St Louis, and from that place by land to his location.

A passage of a traveler from N York
to St Louis with contingencies \$55
Deck Do Do \$27.

Children generally half price.

The broken Prairie to be planted
with Corn, Oats and Potatoes the
first year. Provisions will be ready
for immigrants.

He states that he has bought D Stebbins
lot of Land in Deerfield meadow
west of pine hill and wishes Frank
lin Hoyt to rent it as well as he
can—the lot about 8 acres.

Wednesday 4 Fair with westerly
winds- the day cool.

Illinois in 1837 with a late
map. This Book was published
at Philadelphia at the close
of that year by S. Augustus Mitch
el. of an 8 vo. size, 143 pages. It
contains much information of
Illinois, compiled principally
from Pecks Gazetteer, Flints Geog
raphy and other works, and
includes the most recent matter
and with Peck's work, affords much
which is useful for the immigrant
The map is the latest I have seen.

Thursday 5. fair day warm
calm & very pleasant.

This morning received a letter from Arthur, dated Danville Illinois March 22d. He states that besides his engineering business, he is engaged in settling a Colony of eastern people near the middle of Illinois on between 2 & 3 thousand acres, which cannot be surpassed for goodness, in the state, about equally divided between prairie and wood land, which has been selected after a thorough examination of the Country; the town to be named Pocumtuc. He adds: there never was nor will be again so good an opportunity for Deerfield people to immigrate and settle together. Offers land at 5 dollars the acre to settlers.

There are many people in Deerfield who are without farms and live only by hard labor, to whom immigration would be of great advantage; but they are unable to procure the money requisite for the journey, and to purchase even a small tract of land could they reach Illinois. Single men who

are industrious and willing to labor may do well in Illinois. Two or three years wages will purchase 40 acres sufficient for a farm and within a few years they may find themselves in easy, if not in independent circumstances. But with the same labor and industry here, such as the price of land, they must always remain poor. With 1,000 Dollars a farmer with good management in Illinois is sure of independence; and that sum here is wholly insufficient to support a family, without indefatigable labor.

But the attachment of people to the place of their birth rivets many to their homes and they submit to drag out a life of hard labor rather than attempt to ameliorate their condition by immigration. And perhaps it is fortunate for our large farmers that this disposition prevails, otherwise they might not find labor to cultivate their lands here.

Friday 6. Fair and hazy morn and the same throughout the day. Ground mostly dry & ready for the flood.

Last evening (late) Mr Cushing the architect who has contracted to construct the Bridges on the Rail routes under the superintendence of my son in Illinois called at Mr. C T Arms on his route home. He informs that our boys are well and in close employment. Says the past winter at Illinois has been cold though short; that the land is good, as well as the water of the Country; came to Deerfield by the Wabash, Ohio, Pittsburg & Philadelphia, N-York and Albany ~~to that place~~ and is soon to return to Illinois, with hands or laborers

In a New York paper a Mr ----- offers farms to settlers on the Prairies of the Wabash valley, with areas of 200 acres, and convenient log houses on them. The lands in this valley are little known by our people, and, I think, they may be found very valuable, like the intervals on the Connecticut.

As soon as the canal from the Maume to Lafayette on the Wabash is completed, it will furnish the great and most direct route to the tract

This canal from its eastern termination at Manhattan, to the Indiana line, is stated to be 89 miles within the state of Ohio, and now under contract. The chief obstruction I understand, is in the lower part of the Maumee of 18 miles, the rest suitable water. The part in Indiana about 80 miles, extending to or near Lafayette, and the whole length in both states 200 miles. The part in Indiana was to have been completed last year. See Sketch Book No. 9 part 1 page 23~

Saturday 7. Fair and warm day- small wind; our street nearly dry A few patches of snow, the remains of drifts on the north sides of hills and buildings, may be seen: the buds of Lilock begin to expand and we have every reason to expect an early season // Advertisement.

Casseday, McKibbin & Co of Danville, Illinois March 9 1838, have scattered hand bills {—}{—} for the purpose of engaging 5,000 Laborers and 500 carpenters, stone Masons and smiths On

on the northern Cross and Central branch Rail roads in the State of Illinois who can find constant employment and reasonable compensation by calling at Paris Edgar County, and Danville Vermilion County in Illinois.

“Come and try (say they) “and if you do not like Rail-roading, you can be immediately independent by investing \$200 in Government lands, the fertility of which can not be surpassed.”

If this number of workmen are required to construct the two Rail Roads mentioned, how many will be required on the whole within the state?

The distance of Illinois and the necessary expenses on the route from this quarter of the Country are such, that very few workmen will be induced to embrace the offer of the advertisement. To single men desirous of procuring farms it may afford a good opportunity for ~~procure~~ them. But the wages alone would be but a trifle after deducting the expense of the route to & from Illinois.

Sunday 8 Fair day with hazy sky thickens to clouds towards evening and southerly winds, indicating rain of which we have had little this spring {——} up to this time
 Monday 9. Cloudy morn, some rain last night. Afternoon fair with NW wind

The Cherokee Indians

The improved Indian nation situated in the NW corner of Georgia, the NE corner of Alabama and SE part of Tennessee by a protected treaty, are to be removed from their Country in the month of May next, to the wilds ~~Country~~ west of Arkansas. The treaty which our Government endeavor to consider as valid is said to have been entered into by a few Cherokees of no authority in the nation, and is thus considered by the great body of their people; and they have recently sent a remonstrance to Congress said to be signed by 15,665 Cherokees asking for a consideration of their case and redress of their grievance Reports in the papers say that the President of the U.S. has ordered

Genl. Scott to repair to the Country, take command of the troops, and force a compliance with the treaty. The question is, whether the treaty on the part of the Cherokees, was made by authorized agents? and if not it cannot be considered as binding them to quit their Country. The ~~power~~ Rights of the Indian Chiefs to transfer their Country is very doubtful, although a long practice. But in the Case of these Cherokees it appears the treaty was not signed by their Chiefs, or at any rate, only by a part of them, and others of no sort of authority. The case is flagrantly wrong that the humane people in the state wish to arrest proceedings under the Treaty, and are forwarding petitions to Congress for that purpose. One signed by a considerable number of people of this town, of that purport, is to be immediately forwarded to Washington. I cheerfully put my name to it. But whether any thing of this nature coming from northern people will have any useful effect is doubtful. Probably

the unfortunate Cherokees will be driven
 from their homes to the western wilds,
 and the avaricious Georgians will seize
 their lands and dwellings; but not
 to cultivate the soil with their own
 hands, but with those of the poor
 blacks under the lash of the driver.
 Oh my Country! Where is thy sense
 of honor- thy humanity- thy justice?
 Fled before the grasping hand of
 Mammon—sunk below a wretched
 cupidity and lost to a manly sense
 of right! Such want of rectitude [] heap disgrace
 upon our Country in the view of the
 civilized nations of Europe, over
 whom we boast of superior intelligence
 and justice. Under such a course
 who will not be ashamed of the
 name of American?

Tuesday 10 Fair morn & broken clouds afternoon
 Last night an Eclipse of the moon;
 commenced between 7 & 8 oclock, about
 7 digits, north limb
 On the occurrence of an eclipse my
 admiration of the wonderful accuracy
 with which astronomers have
 determined the motion of the heavenly
 bodies is roused. To construct table of

moon must have been a long and laborious task; and when we consider her accelerations and retardations by the attraction of the sun and earth, according to her position in relation to them, the task seems next to an impossibility. Yet the ingenuity and perseverance of astronomers have surmounted all the difficulties and we now have tables by which the places of the sun, moon and planets may be determined with the nicest precision for any time. both antecedent and perspective. In fact their places are better known in the heavens, than the Latitude and Longitude of places on the Earth. To what a pinnacle then has astronomy arrived! None of our sciences can claim greater perfection; and the researches and calculations of a Newton, a Laplace, a Bowditch and others, hardly appear the work of mortals. By great perfection in the construction of Instruments future astronomers may arrive at greater exactness in the dimensions & distance of the bodies belonging to the solar system But with

these instruments and the efforts
of later astronomers the funda
mental principles of their science
will not materially vary.

Wednesday 11. Cloudy morn attended
with a fall of snow, very slight After
noon some rain fair at night

Thursday 12. Fair and pleas
ant day. Received a letter for
Arthur at Paris Illinois.

Friday 13 Fair and cloudy
Alternately: air rather cold

Last evening we closed our village
Lectures with one from Dr Williams;
they commenced on the Thursday evening
on the 4th of January and with
the exception of one week, continued
in the evening of this day ~~every~~ each week to
last evening. The whole No. 14, on va
rious subjects, such as were selected
by the speakers. If they have failed
of useful instruction they have at
least served for amusement~

The Gentlemen who gave lectures were
the following: Jonathan A. Saxton John
Fessenden Pliny Arms George Dickinson
Rod. Dickinson Luther Lincoln—John Williams Dr Eels &
Dr Williams—Mr Belden & Artemus Williams

Dr Willard, each one lecture,
and Ep. Hoyt two lecture=14

These assemblies undoubtedly
are preferable to balls and parties,
and were well attended by the
young people, as well as others.

Saturday 14 Snow of 1 ½ inch
last night & the forenoon and at night
snow gone (entirely)

This day two young men, William
and James Stebbins and Lansford
Stebbins' wife and children, sat
out for Illinois, via Philadelphia
and Pittsburg, by whom I sent
a long letter to my son at Paris
treating upon various subjects in rela
tion to a new settlement.

The distance from Deerfield to Vandal
ia in Illinois, by St Louis in Missou
ri, according to tables, is as follows

Deerfield to N. York	171 miles
N York to Philadelphia	89
Philadelphia to Pittsburg	394
Pittsburg to mouth of Ohio	975
Thence to St Louis	<u>176</u>
total	1805
St. Louis to Vandalia	<u>82</u>
	<u>1887</u>

The distance from Deerfield to

Vandalia, by Buffalo, Lake Erie, the Maume & Wabash Canal, and by Paris, is very nearly 1060 miles Difference-----873 miles, in favor of the Lake route. This will at length be the great traveled route to the central part of Illinois, from this part of New England, and Illinois will not exceed 8 days journey, Some say less.

Sunday 15 Fair last night cold Westerly wind brings Hoosac Mountain temperature and we may yet have more snow.

Monday 16 Fair and cool day though very clear air Cold W. Wind

Bridgewater Treatises

A set of Books under this head are now published in the U States from London Editions under the following titles All On the power, wisdom and Goodness of God

1. The Adaptation of External Nature to the Moral and Intellectual Constitution of Man. By Rev. Thomas Chabners D.D. of Edinburg University.
2. The Adaptation of External Nature to the Physical Condition of Man. By John Kidd MD FRS. University of Oxford

3. Astronomy and General Physics considered with reference to Natural Theology. By Rev. William [] M.A.

FRS College Cambridge (England)

4 The Hand; its Mechanism and Vital Endowments as concerning design. By Sir Charles Bell K.H. FRS.

5. Animal and Vegetable Physiology By Peter Mark Roget M.D. Fellow of and Secretary to R. Society.

6. Geology & Mineralogy. By Rev. William Buckland D.D. FRS. University of Oxford.

7. The History, Habits and Instincts of Animals. By Rev. William Kirby M.A. FRS.

8. Chemistry, Meteorology & and the Function of Digestion. By William Prout M.D. FRS.

~~9. Bucklands new work on Geology &c. being the last of the Bridgewater Treatises with numerous plates~~

The forgoing works were published in England & expense defrayed out of a donation left by the Earl of Bridgewater for the purpose They should be in our Social Library—Published by Carey Lea & Blanchard, Philadelphia.

Tuesday 17 Fair and cold morning—hazy sky and cloudy part of the day with hail & sleet at night From the moderate state of the air most of the month of March, we were induced to expect an early season; but since the cold westerly winds have prevailed most of the present month, on expectation of an early season have abated.

If our summers continue as cool as for a few year past, we must give up our old staple, Indian corn, and substitute the wheat crop, which thrives with a moderate degree of heat. In the State of Maine this crop is becoming an important article in its agriculture, as will be the case in Massachusetts if the cold seasons continue.

In England wheat is extensively cultivated but no maize or Indian corn; in France the former ~~crop~~ is a good crop and some maize is raised in the southern part; but both countries are too cold for the latter crop, yet neither are deficient in breadstuffs.

Wednesday 18. Cloudy, the air warmer than yesterday and the hail and snow, which fell yesterday gone afternoon foggy and some rain

Thursday 19. Rain last night and cloudy morn: fair in the afternoon and scattering clouds though often covering the sky.

Franklin Hoyt, and family are now making preparations to leave my farm with a design to remove to Illinois where my son Arthur offers him a tract of land in advantageous terms. His stay with me has been five years, during which time 4 ~~four~~ children have been born in his family, one, the oldest, has deceased; two boys and a infant daughter left. His wife and children are to reside with a connection in Whately, while he visits Illinois to make the necessary preparations for his family's removal. Obed H. Hoyt and his wife a cousin of Franklin, is to take a lease of my farm for a year

and reside with me, on terms similar to my former agreement with [—] Franklin.

Though I had rented my farm on terms which, I think advantages to Franklin, yet such were his expenses that he was not able to to accumulate any property; and as he has a family to support some effort seemed necessary to obtain a farm of his own. Should Illinois be found to suit him and prove healthy, I think he may place himself in a more advantageous situation than to remain here I hope he will be successful.

After so long a connection in which no feuds have occurred between us, a separation cannot but excite emotions of regret. The innocent prattle of the two little boys, & the inciting smiles of the infant, as the reasoning faculties begin to unfold, have made tender impressions on my sensibilities, which will not easily be eradicated. One of the boys bears my name, and may he live to render it more valuable than has his predecessor. I feel great anxiety for their welfare as well as for
their

their parents; and my prayer is that
 all may be respectable in society
 as well as easy in their circumstances:
 &. “When soon or late they reach that coast,
 O’er life’s rough ocean driv’n,
 May they rejoice, no wander re lost
 A family in Heav’n!”⁸

Friday 20. Fair with cold west wind
 & scattering clouds.

Last evening Mr Samuel Willard delivered a
 lecture, additional to the Deerfield Lectures
 noted page 182.

Professor Hitchcock sends me his Report
on a Re-Examination of the Economical Geology
of Massachusetts, dated April 1, 1838.

Printed by the Legislature (See next part)

Contents continued

Removal of my Adopted family	187
Change of crops from a change of temperature	186
Bridgewater Treatise, in 9 Vols	184
Distances to Illinois	183
Deerfield Evening Lectures	182
Remarks on Astronomy	180
The Cherokees and removal of	178
Advertisement for Workmen in Illinois	176
Maume Rapids	176
Wabash & Erie canal & Farms on	175
Letters from Arthur	170 & 173

⁸ From a prayer written by Robert Burns in 1786.

Contents

March meetings & remarks on	128
Particulars of the late dead	130
Specimens of Foreign Literature	134
Hassler's Report on Surveys &c	135
Free Remarks of the Press on the Dead	136
Quantity of sap from trees	138
Heat of the Earth from the sun rays	139
Remarks on the above	140
Rev. Mr Brooks journal in Italy	141
Trading stations in Illinois	143
Arrival of summer birds	145
Remarks on their migration	146
Pigeons, vast flock, in former times	ib
Report on the annexation of Texas	148
Sugar Orchards, importance of	150
Illinois Rail Road contracts on	151
Death of Dr. Nathaniel Bowditch of Boston	153
Our great astronomer	155
Small pox among the Indians	156
L. Stebbins letter from Illinois	159
Indian mode of Fortification	162
Disturbance on the Illinois Canal	163
Eulogy to be delivered on Dr. Bowditch	166
Royal Society of England	167
No satisfactory explanation of the rise of sap	168
Westerly winds, coldness of	169
Mitchel's Illinois in 1837	172

Sketch Book No 10
From April 20th 1838
To June 4th 1838

Part 4~

Written on an old Field
Book of penciled Minutes.

April 1838.

Saturday 21. Fair, and Cloudy
occasionally not cold

Professor Hitchcock's Report

By the instructions from the Government of the state five leading objects were presented to Geologer, the first of which was the collection and analysis of soils with a view to their improvement on chemical principles; the second the discovery of coal, marl and ores. These two objects occupy the principal part of the report; the 3d, 4th & 5th are left for future operations.

The report contains in a tabular arrangement, the analysis of soils collected from different parts of the State, which must have required much labor, and if accurately made, afford useful information to agriculturists.

In this table a new technical is given which I have not before seen used in the description of soils This term is Geine and is divided into soluabl geine and Insoluable geine

geine. Dr Dana's definition of the term is given.

By geine says he, I mean all decomposed organic matter of the soil. It results chiefly from vegetable decomposition; animal substances produce a similar compound containing azote. Geine exists in two states: soluble and insoluble: soluble both in water and in alkali, in alcohol and acids. It is what was called solution of vegetable extract. Air converts this soluble into solid geine: It is converted into a substance having acid properties by the action of alkali, and in that state combines with earth's alkalies and oxyds, forming neutral salts, which may be termed Geates. Soluble geine is the food of plants.

We have a further definition by Dr Dana. Geine forms the basis of all the nourishing part of all vegetable manures. The relations of soils to heat and moisture depend chiefly on geine. It is
in

in fact, under these states of vegetable extract, geine, and carbonous mould, the principle which gives fertility to soils long after the addition of common manures has ceased. See pages 31, 32 & 33.

Among the substances for manures Green Sand is found to be an important one. Within a few years past it has wrought wonders in New-Jersey See page 75.

Muck Sand is another manure recommended. This substance has been found in the digging of wells and an instance is mentioned of it in Deerfield. See page 94. The importance of Clay as a manure is pointed out Page 81. Various modes of analyzing soils are given page 14

The Report cannot fail of important use to scientific farmers.

By an improvement of our soils the Professor thinks we might support a greater population, and check the tide of immigration that sets so strongly to the west. "If our Sons says he, can be made to see the soil of New-England doubling its minerals

as I verily believe they might in one or two decades of years, the rich Alluvia and prairies of the west would not be able to draw them away from the graves of their fathers; especially if they learn that those fertile regions will at length become exhausted of their geine and salts and then will probably require as much labor to cultivate as the soil of Massachusetts.”

An increase of fertility in our soil would no doubt enrich its [] by increasing its value; but should this be a reason for inducing those who own more of it to refuse the opportunity of obtaining for themselves equally good land in the west, at a low rate already fit for cultivation? To poor and industrious young men the prospects of the west present extraordinary advantages; and no considerations of attachment to the land of their fathers should operate for a moment to check a spirit of immigration to the west so long as the present prospects continue so favorable. The time

will arrive when lands in that region will be as expensive as in ours, and equally beyond the power of the poor man to obtain. When this is the case, the poor man here will be poor there. It follows then, irresistably, that he should seize the present favorable opportunity to place himself in easy circumstances which within his power. The soil of Massachusetts may be enriched, and of course become more valuable, but will this enrichment add any thing to the property of the man who owns none of it? If his labor will be of more value so will the lands; and the price will be too great for him, in a purchase. and though industrious, when old age or sickness comes, he may have no other subsistence than what is found in a poor house.

A numerous immigration from New England would be injurious to ~~the~~ its great landholders ~~on it~~ by depriving them of laborers at a moderate rate. But shall industrious young men remain here to enrich the already rich and submit to a life of servitude, with the consolation of an eleemosynary support in old age?

Note One remarkable fact relating to the soils of this country is stated by Professor Hitchcock. Viz. That only one in thirty of our soils contains any calcinerous matter. This he says, is so different from the accounts given in the books of European soils, some of which contain more than 50 per cent, that it is surprising. This he thinks could not always have been the case, especially in limestone regions. But it is known to agricultural chemists, that in cultivated fields, calcinerous matter is generally changed or consumed.

This deficiency of calcinerous matter is contrary to my observations. In 1801 I resided several months in the town of Phelps in the State of New York, and I often found my shoes whitened with lime, on drying them, after walking in the wet path. Is it likely that this calcinerous matter is consumed at this time? Perhaps the professor's remark should be confined to N England
though

though he says this is the case with the soils of Virginia, as well as some of the western states, even in limestone regions. In an examination of five of the richest soils of Ohio and Illinois he says, that although he found cabarrous matter in all but one, yet the average quantity was not over 2 per cent. And [—] he concludes that this matter, is one of the great disidua ta of the soils in Massachusetts. See page 16 & 17~

For remarks on Alluvial soils see page 44. where it is asserted that these soils contain less geine in both its forms, than most other varieties, and that they are sooner exhausted than others without constant supplies of geine. Yet so finely constituted are these soils that even if exhausted, they are more easily restored than most others; so that taking all things into the account, they are the most valuable of our soils; and yet I doubt whether they produce as much at one crop as many other soils.” Admitting

Admitting these facts, it appears that since our floods have become less frequent than formerly, and of course a less quantity of mud is deposited in our interval, it is necessary that the soil should be constantly supplied with manure to insure a good crop. Hence then, the great importance of increasing the quantity of our manures, is obvious; and one object of the Professor's Report is to bring to view those which may be found in our Country existing in a natural state.

Sunday 22. Fair day with occasional clouds, and temperate air; much warmer than it has been. Frogs peep lively.

Monday 23 Fair and clear N westerly wind—air rather cool. Some of our farmers have commenced plowing and I suppose will sow considerable wheat. The coldness of the late summer and the premium offered by our government are the inducements, and it is hoped we may soon raise enough for our wants. Perhaps
how

however the want of calcarious matter in our soil, will prevent our raising of wheat in any great quantity.

Experiments ought to be made with the Whately limestone, which Professor Hitchcock thinks would answer a good purpose with a due proportion of manure mixed with it Marl, he says, is a most valuable article, in agriculture. It is a friable mixture of lime and clay, although the term is extended to beds of other substances; and from the nature of our rocks, he says, he had no hope of finding rich beds of it in any part of the state except in the County of Berkshire, where he has found it in considerable quantities

The term marl has been used and applied improperly often to substances that contained no carbonate of lime. The Professor suggest the following nomenclature: silicious marl; aluminous marl; ferruginous marl; calcarious marl and green sand marl as the earths combined with the lime predominate. See marls in his last report. page 52~ On

On the use of lime or marl, see page 61 of the Report. On land that is worn out, or whose geine has been exhausted they seem to be of little use; it only cooks the food which exists in the soil and this food is the manure found in the soil (same page) Hence then, when marl is spread upon worn out land, manure should be spread with it, otherwise there may be no beneficial effect.

Lime is said to be a Neutralizer, a Decomposer and a Convectur. page 59 but not the food of plants.

From the [] principles it appears that no combination of earths can become permanently fertile: but they must be supplied with Geine. In new Countries where the mould is deep, the geine may continue for years, but it will at length be exhausted. In the old French settlements in the American Bottom in Illinois, the soil has been cultivated for 100 years, without applying manure; but may not the land have been supplied with alluvia from the floods of the Mississippi?

Tuesday 24 Cold freezing last night
cloudy morn, indicating snow
afternoon clear and pleasant.

I have just completed the reading
of a small work intitled The Eternity
of the Universe By G.H. Toulmin
M.D. printed at Philadelphia
1830.

The author has collected many facts
in relation to the revolution of our Globe,
the physical operations of nature
the arts and sciences of ancient
nations, and the appearance of the heavenly bodies
&c. all written in handsome lan-
guage and with considerable ingenu-
ity. But admitting the whole of
his statements and phenomena
as correct. I must confess, that I can
not perceive one argument, in
the work, of any force, in favor
of his main position. All his phe-
nomena are as easily accounted for
on the supposition that the Universe
had a beginning, as that it existed
from eternity: And on what he relies
for his proofs, I am at a loss.

Whether he adopts the scheme of
the

the Pantheists, as respects a God, I am also at a loss. From the following I should be induced to believe he agrees with them. He says—
 “If the want of a cause equal to its (the Universe) production could be an objection to the eternal existence; the want of a course equal to the production of superior magnificence, must be a still stronger objection. Something does exist; and as nothing could produce nothing, something must have existed uncaused from all eternity. That uncaused existence is the human species, the surrounding worlds, the supreme intelligence; together with those functions of light and life, the immeasurable suns that blaze in the wide expanse of the universe, with luster undiminished & eternal”

Again: “Thus must it most evidently appear, that every step we advance beyond the Universe is relinquishing a sublime and infinite, and certain existence in search of an existence removing from the evidence of our senses. And in proportion, too as we advance in such speculations

speculations, in that proportion
 must we even increase our difficulties.
 For again, let me observe, that the
 uncaused existence which could produce
 the Universe, itself infinity splendid,
 superb, and intelligent, must were it
 possible, be still more wonderful
 and superb than that universe or
 nature, which they are said to have
 produced. And consequently there
 is greater difficulty in conceiving them
 self-existent, than in conceiving the
 unbounded and stupendous universe
 self-existent.”

At the close of the work, we have the
 following, which seems to be of a ano
 ther import

“Yet by then endeavoring to establish the Entern
 ity of the Universe, and resting things
 upon their own certain foundation,
 I have by no means been led to dispute
 but most strenuously, though in ade
 quately, to enforce the astonishing splend
 er and magnificence of existence.
 And so far as the arguments that I
 have made use of, from having the
 smallest tendency to dump our great
 and only consolation, the universal

animating expectation of future being, splendor and felicity, that they open the most brilliant and pleasing prospects of an indisputable, bright permanent and intelligent state of future and inconceivable happiness; they enforce the excellence of moral rectitude; and the existence of a supreme Being—infinite in wisdom, goodness, and intelligence.”—Is this reconcilable to other parts of his essay?~

Whether the Universe has existed eternally, or has been created in time? is a problem whose solution bids defiance to man; and could it be solved, what importance would be derived from it? So far as regards the solar system, we have indubitable proofs that it has existed for a long time that the machine which constitutes it, is {—} perfect one; and we are well acquainted with its various parts—their distances, periods, the position and eccentricities of their orbits, and can tell their places in the heavens with great precision

So

So long as the present machine continues. Nor have we any reason to suppose that its movements would be more regular or better determined, had they been the same eternally. Nor would the profound labors of a Newton, a LaPlace, and others ~~have~~ been rendered less important and useful than they are at this period. With regard to its future, elevation, if we may rely on the investigation of our late astronomers, we may be sure it will be eternal unless the Great Governor of the Universe interrupts and stops the machine- And if this is to take place it is known only to that Being~

My new family, Obed H. Hoyt and wife, came to reside with me this day (April 24th)

Wednesday 25. Fair & cold morn the day pleasant and free from clouds.

Franklin Hoyt, wife and Children left my house and proceeded to Whately to reside with mr Smith a connection.

During her residence at my house Mrs. Hoyt has uniformly exhibited a kind and tender disposition towards me. and performed her duty in her various departments according to the best of her abilities, and I here cheerfully express my satisfaction for her endeavors. Frnaklin Hoyt, her husband, unfortunately has not been able to amass property, so as to render the circumstances of his family easy. He is not destitute of industry nor activity, but seems to want the peculiar art of those who know how to accumulate profit from every mite that falls in their way.

His present design is to make a visit to Illinois with a view of procuring a farm; but probably he will not be able to go until the fall season.

In parting from the little boys born in my house, and grown to develop the ~~reasoning~~ rational faculties in a considerable degree ~~and~~ to exhibit their little antic sports, and semi-artful and innocent pranks, was cutting to my

feelings, and it required some effort to suppress a parting tear. Is this emotion to be attributed to puerility? Or rather, is it not from a refined sensibility which every good heart feels towards the innocent beings of our species in their infancy. Whatever may be thought of such emotions, I am bold to say, they are estimable traits in the character of human beings, and should be cherished. Even the rough soldier is not callous to these tender feelings. I have somewhere read the following anecdote. In one of the revolutionary skirmishes in a street in Paris, a young child was seen between the hostile lines exposed to the shot, a soldier darted from the ranks, rushed forward among the flying balls, seized the child and brought it off safely. What act! Gallant soldier!

“Cowards are cruel, but the brave,
Love mercy and delight to save”⁹

Nothing is more rigidly true than this couplet. A savage may be ferocious; but ferocity is not bravery. Bravery is cool and reflecting ferocity rash, ~~and~~ cruel and uncertain~

⁹ John Gay, English dramatist and poet.

Thursday 26 Cloudy day with
mist and clam air & moderate
Reports of Western Rail Road
Corporation (Massachusetts) 1836-7

By Wm. Gibbs Mc Neill
George W. Whistler
W. H. Swift-Engineers

The first two sign as Engineers and
the last, as Resident Engineer.
What is the meaning of this? Are all the
Gentlemen engaged on our Road? Mr
McNeill is sometimes called Chief
Engineer. Perhaps they have found
a company to carry on works of this kind,
~~and~~ divide the profits and engross the
engineering business of the U. States.

The Report contains two im
perfect maps, embracing the routes be
tween Worcester and the west line
of our state; from which it appears
that the routes are very serpentine
The western section takes a direction
from the upper part of Westfield
River northerly, through Hinsdale
Dalton & Pittsfield; thence curves
southerly into Richmond and
West Stockbridge, and then turns
west

across the line of our State. From the point of intersection to Albany, the distance is stated at 38 miles. The route selected may be the least expensive; but if the object is to accommodate the State, it is to be regretted that a more central one was not chosen; say near Northampton or Hatfield, if practicable. By carrying the road so far south as Springfield, the northern part of the state can receive little benefit from it. What traveler to Boston or Albany, from our part of the State, will go by Springfield? He may indeed intersect the road at Worcester or Hinsdale, but what great advantage will occur from this? Our northern people, perhaps, flatter themselves that another Rail Road will be constructed in their part of the State at some future time, and therefore they rest easy with the present location; but this is very doubtful. I am friendly to Rail ways, but when they are constructed at the public expense or partially so I am desirous that they should accommodate those who pay for them

In

In the evening we had a Lecture at our school house had from a Mr Bacon from Boston, on the subject of Slavery

He is here on a visit to a connection of his in this town, and having attended our last lecture, volunteered his service. I was not present but am informed that he acquitted himself to the satisfaction of the audience, by showing the injustice and wickedness of Slavery~ We have among us a few who seem to favor the continuance of slavery, though they do not directly acknowledge it; but attempt to disguise their sentiments by opposing immediate emancipation. Such, it appears to me, ~~must~~ cannot have taken a full view of the nefarious practice; or they have blunted their reasoning faculties.

To say that they delight in the sufferings and wrongs of our fellow creatures, whom God has created with sable complexions, would be going beyond my belief. Such turpitude I cannot impute to any born and educated in New England. If

If there are any such among us, I
wish them more light and less de
pravity of heart

Friday 27 Cloudy morn, rain last
night afternoon fair.

The New York papers state that
two large steam vessels, from England
have arrived at that port, after passages
of about 14 or 15 days; the winds were
against them most of the voyages, yet they
had a rapid run. It is said im
portant improvements have been made
in the machinery which remove the
danger of bursting the boilers. It is hop
ed this is true. The vessels are provided
with masts and sails, to be used when
the wind is aft. The rate of sailing
of these vessels must have been about 200
miles per day on an average. What a
triumph of science and art & to what
a height of perfection, may not man arrive
by the study of nature!

The "Bird hatched on the Hudson" now
wings its rapid flight across the Atlantic
in the face of winds and waves, and dist
ant countries have now become neigh
bors! and may they not be brothers and
banish wars?

Saturday 28. Cloudy morn and so through most of the day, with some rain in afternoon air mild clear at sun set.

The departure of my late family with its prattling boys produces a calmness in my house, ~~which~~ [—] and a sort of ennui, and I begin to feel a want of more company. A friend now and then calls in and converses upon the news of the day and the affairs of the village. But my Books are still a source of instruction and Amusement; and though I have access to a good Library for a country one, besides my own, I am in want of many late writers particularly on scientific subjects.

Sunday 29 Cloudy morn—Sun out before noon, and clear and broken clouds in afternoon- air mild, or rather warm

Monday 30 Fair with westerly winds & cool of course.

Perusing Dr Reese's Humbugs of New York; The first 5 Chap. of which, I think timely & useful for checking the gullibility of the people at this time. The

The other 4 chapters on Ultra Temperance, ultra abolitionism, Ultra Protectionism and Ultra Setarianism, though not entirely destitute of merit, I think contain much objectionable matter, particularly his Chap. on ultra-abolitionism. In this Chap. the author endeavors to reconcile slavery with scripture, and in fact in directly justifies the murders and atrocities that have been committed by the aiders and abettors of Slavery

His plea is that these Ultras go beyond the Bible; of this he ~~assumes~~ it seems is to be the judge & in many instances with out very just discrimination.

The castigation he gives to many uninformed dupes in New-York no doubt are well applied, and such ~~these~~ are always found in abundance in our populous cities, where trade and cupidity are the [] [] of a large majority. True learned men are found there; but these are in the back ground, and if not politicians or lawyers are little known by the multitude.

Tuesday 1 Fair and rather cool morn, ground froze last night but a pleasant day, with westerly wind.

This day our militia assemble by companies to exhibit their arms and equipments to their officers, for a general return of the ~~state of the~~ militia in the State; but such is the apathy of the officers & men that the returns of the companies must be very inaccurate. Our militia is said to be at a low ebb, because there is so little spirit in the men to perform militia duty. But the fact is, all that ever was of any value in these forces, still remains Viz. the enrollment. Any discipline of the present number is totally useless. It is enough that their names are on the roll, ready to be detached on an emergency. It is important however that we should have a body of troops ready and fit for service at all times, beside our small standing army; but in this plan, volunteers must be raised and disciplined at the public expense, and their arms and equipments

provided in the same way. But the general sentiment of the people seems to be averse to such a plan; and the occurrence of another militia war, with all its distresses and confusion, will alone correct this erroneous sentiment. Our present reliance on the militia may be ranking among the humbugs of Dr. Reese. Our safety is the wide atlantic; but this will beat on and, when a powerful nation shall border on our territory. To this important subject Congress appears to be indifferent; and it would be no improbable event, in case of a war, were they to be driven from their capital while smoking in its ruins. Our political men have yet much to learn besides the principles of banks and banking, which now engrosses their chief attention. An increase of our regular force is evidently called for at this time, with the plan of a new organization of the militia, sometimes talked of by military men who see our weakness as a nation.

Wednesday 2, Fair—and pleasant
 day the sky somewhat hazy-
 cloudy at night
 Franklin Hoyt & his brother Alfred
 I am informed, left Whatley & Deerfield last Mon
 day morn, the 30th ult. for Illinois
 This sudden and unexpected depart
 ure is involved in mystery for which
 I cannot readily account. I find he
 has left debts unpaid, and why
 and by what means he became
 in debt I cannot dvise. To say
 the least he is an unfortunate man,
 and though I am a pecuniary
 sufferer by him, I wish him well,
 and hope he will find means
 to support his family, for whom
 I feel deep pity.

Mailed Letter to Son Arthur
 at Paris, Illinois.

Thursday 3. Rain last night &
 and cloudy morn with some rain,
 and clouding most of the day~
A Discourse on the Life & Character
 of the Hon. Nathaniel Bowditch
 L.L.D. F.R.S. delivered in the Church
 on Church Green March 25, 1838
 By Alexander Young Boston

This

This discourse is printed at Boston, in a pamphlet of 119 pages and contain much information of Dr. Bowditch from his birth to his death. Mr Young is the minister of the religious society, in Boston, to which the Dr belonged, and of course had opportunity to acquire full knowledge of him, and the biography he has given is very interesting.

In his conclusion he has the following
 “Above all Dr Bowditch has left us a most glorious legacy in his example of integrity, love of truth, moral courage, and independence.

He has taught the young men here and the world over, that there is no thing so grand and beautiful as moral principle, nothing so sublime as ~~truth~~ adherence to truth, and right, and duty, through good report and through evil report. He has indeed blessed the world greatly by his science and practical wisdom; but quite as much, nay far more, I think, by his upright and manly character. He has taught mankind that
 reverence

reverence for duty, and trust in Providence, and submission to his will, and faith in the rectitude of all of his appointments, and a filial reliance upon his love, are sentiments not unworthy nor unbecoming the greatest philosopher”- Born at Salem March 26, 1773. Died 14th March 1838. The 1st Edition of The New American Practical Navigator was issued, in the year 1800, at his age of 27 years It has run through many Editions the last in 1837, in which he was assisted by his son J. Ingersoll Bowditch, who compiled most of the new tables, and carefully examined those which were taken from other works. The work is said now to be extensively used in the British and French navies, and by every American Ship. He began the translation of La Place’s “Mechanique Celeste” in 1815 and finished it in two years; the Commentary kept pace with the Translation. A work I believe in 4 quarto Vols. [Mailed another letter to Arthur my son.]

Died in our village the widow Eunice Arms, aged 94 years and months, consort of the late Jonathan Arms.

Friday 4 Fair morn, and broken Clouds throughout the day.

The Legislature of this Commonwealth was prorogued on the 25th of April.

They have been in session from the third of January, of this year, making 113 days- a longer session than usual; and notwithstanding the reduction of members from the last year the pay roll amounts to an enormous and unnecessary sum. So long as the expense of the Government of the little state of Massachusetts continues it has been it will be impossible to grant money for ~~other~~ worthy objects, which are called for.

Extravagance in expenses has been and still is, the error of the day; ~~and~~ in this our commercial Cities take the bad, and some Country town are ready to ape them. The following is a specimen of this extravagance, stated in a Boston paper. "The Salmon

that passed through Boston on Thursday was sold at N. York on Friday, at \$2 per lb. It weighed 22 ½ lbs, and brought \$45—It was consumed at the Astor house.”

About the time I commenced house keeping, a salmon of equal weight might be purchased at Deerfield for about a dollar and a shad for 2 or 3 coppers. The simple wants of nature are few, those of what are called high life unbounded. The farmer brings ease, contentment and happiness—the latter artificial wants, discontent and often misery: In the choice of the two wise men will not hesitate.

At evening received a Letter from Arthur, dated Paris, Illinois April 20th. Says all well (Post marked April 22d=12 days passage)

Saturday 5. Rainy morn and continued most of the day.

By the Boston Courier of May 3d we have the {—} account of the horrible destruction of the new Steam Boat Moselle by explosion at Cincinnati, on the 25th of

April attended with the loss of 125 people.
 Another account says 200 to 230 or 240
 The whole Number on board estimated
 at about 300, said to be principally
 Germans. These accounts are very un-
 certain, as relates to the numbers; many
 names are given, but many are unknown
 The Capt. (Perin) was killed, and it
 is said the disaster occurred through
 his imprudence in forcing the steam
 We are in fear that the Stebbins'
 who left Deerfield for St Louis on
 the 14th instant were on board. The
 explosion is represented as dread-
 ful indeed; the bodies of the killed,
 in some instances, were thrown up
 the shores of the River, and some over
 the houses in Cincinnati. Will steam
 Boats be able to sustain a reputa-
 tion for safety much longer, unless these accidents
 can be avoided. In England we
 hear of very few of these, and why
 is this? It is said that nation has
 strict laws for their regulation
 and why not in this country. Con-
 gress has done something but I know
 not what. Another accident has occurred on
 Lake Erie, from a Collision of two Boats.

In steam navigation, is the pressure on the boiler in direct proportion to the velocity of the boat? If so, lessen the velocity to about one half, and not [] [] lious, merely to save time. This half speed would satisfy rational men.

If a boat from N. Orleans now makes a passage in 6 or 8 days to St. Louis who would regret 12 or 16 days, could ~~their~~ safety to []. Formerly from 2 to 3 month was spent in ascended the River from the former to the latter place in keel boats, by hand labor; what again it would be to make the same passage in 12 or 16 days with out labor. If men cannot be contented with such easy speed, they will suffer for their foolish endeavors to fly. We are not birds, but two legged animals, who must submit to move as nature intended we should. Improvements may be made in the steam engine to render it more secure; but it is doubtful whether the prodigious power of steam, in the boiler, can ever be managed with perfect safety.

Sunday 6 Cloudy morn; rain
last night and rain in the forenoon
afternoon fair.

Our trees retain their winter aspect
~~and~~ the season holds back and
no warming southern breezes pre
vail. We are certainly in a cold regi
on for Lat. $42^{\circ} 32'$: the west coast of
Europe presents nothing like it, at
this season in our Latitude

Monday 7. Fair, and broken clouds
last night much rain fell. Small
showers in the afternoon.

Mailed a letter directed to C.T. Arms
at Danville, Illinois; indicating one
to Arthur on the same sheet, & an in
closure to him

Orations and Speeches on va
rious occasions, By Edward Ever
ett (now Governor of this Com
mon wealth) Vol. 8 vo. 637 pages

These orations &c. delivered at
various times & places were collected &
published in 1836, by the American
Stationers Company, amounting in
the whole to 27; and make up
a respectable volume of excellent

matter, highly creditable to the orator. These were delivered in the western States, viz. at Nashville, Tennessee; Lexington, Kentucky, and the yellow springs, Ohio: these were speeches delivered at public dinners to which Gov. Everett was invited, during his tour through those states, in 1829.

Gov. Everett is certainly a rare man, and evidently possesses a great fund of knowledge. On all subjects on which he touches he displays a master hand whether in History science, arts or belles letters, and must have a very retentive memory. In many, if not all instances, he delivers his addresses without [] to notes, and probably never puts them into writing in full until they are spoken.

This is a habit which appears to me extremely difficult; and to which few men can arrive

Much no doubt depends on habit; but the difficulty with most men, is to keep up a chain [] and make a judicious choice of words at the

same time. By attention to one, the other is apt to slip through the mind and embarrass the speaker. As a popular orator perhaps we have not ~~his~~ Mr. E's equal. We hope that his present employments may not impair his peculiar talents, as I think, those of a Chief Magistrate have a tendency.

Tuesday 8 Fair and cloudy alternately through the day with some rain.

Iowa Territory. All the country on the west of the Mississippi, formerly included in Wisconsin, is to form a new territory by that name, after the 3d of July next, (say the papers) according to act of Congress. It will form a good State when peopled, adjoining South on Missouri and east on the Mississippi, and has several rivers of a good size. Emigrants are flocking to the territory.

Died at Saratoga Springs Dr. John H. Sleet, author of an analysis of the Mineral waters of Saratoga & Ballston, aged 58 years. I was familiarly acquainted with him; he was a

Boon Companion a man of science
and an approved physician. In
his analysis of the Springs, he gave
the Geology of the County of Saratoga
which was esteemed as a valuable by
geologists; ~~and~~ his advice to the nu
merous visitants to the springs, in rela
tion to the use of the waters, was duly
estimated by them, and ~~and~~ many will
regret his loss.

Wednesday 9 Rainy morn

most of forenoon. Fair & some rain afternoons

The newspapers inform us that
a destructive fire took in the City
of Charleston S.C. on the 27th of April,
and continued until noon the next
day, by which many hundred
buildings were destroyed, most of which
are supposed to be of wood.

If people were cluster into Cities they
should build with stone or brick;
other materials are liable to de
struction by fire. If it he said that
all cannot thus build, then it fol
lows, that clustered cities are not the
place for them; they should remain
in the open Country when they will be
less

less exposed. A clustered City of wooden buildings ought never to be ; and where stone or brick cannot be obtained the ground should be appropriated to other purposes. But it would be idle to say the latter cannot be obtained at Charleston, by men of property; and for the requisite laborers they should furnish—buildings of this material. If this would retard the growth of a place, so be it. Let no place grow faster than ~~this~~ safety will permit.

When a favorable place is found for ~~commerce~~ a trading station and it is intended to cluster it with buildings, the first question should be Can the necessary incombustible materials be obtained for them? If not, the place is indelible, and should not be attempted upon a large scale, One of the great errors of our Country.

Boston once consisted principally of wooden buildings and what was the consequence? Destructive fires often prevailed: this difficulty is now removed, and we seldom see there great destruction from conflagrations. The City has a well regulated fire department, it is true; but the greatest security is from its stone and brick edifices

Thursday 10 Cloudy morn, with some rain;- after part of the day cloudy a fair alternately, with a snow shower.

Maxwell's treatise on Astronomy and General Physics considered with reference to Natural Theology-

This is one of the Bridgewater Treatise on the power & wisdom and goodness of God, as manifested in the Creation. Its object, says the author, is to lead the friends of religion to look with confidence and pleasure on the progress of the physical sciences, by showing how admirably every advance in our knowledge of the universe harmonizes with the belief of a most wise and good God. After the Introduction, it is directed into 3 Books: the 1st Terrestrial Adaptations; 2d Cosmical Arrangements; the 3d- Religious Views.

The work exhibits considerable research and knowledge of nature, and draws [] proof from terrestrial adaptations, of the existence

of a designing and over ruling cause.

The author is sometimes a little ambiguous, or rather beyond what [] ready conceive and I think a few explanatory diagrams are wanted for elucidation of his positions.

In the 8th Chap. of the 2d Book, he attempts to prove the Existence of a Resisting Medium in the solar system, which [] appears to me as doubtful. By the late mathematical Astronomers we have been assured of the stability of the solar system, which cannot be true, if such a medium exists. Of this the author is aware. He says “The main point which we had to urge, in the consideration of the stability of the system, was, not that it is constructed to last forever, but that while it lasts, the deviations from its mean condition are very small. ‡ ‡‡ We conceive that this state of things has had a beginning; we conceive that it will have an end.” See page 159.

The part of the work on Religious views, corresponds generally with the sentiments of men of science. The

The work appears to me to be valuable, and worthy the attention of the philosopher.

On the subject of Light the author leaves to the opinion, that it is propagated by vibrations through a highly subtle and elastic ether, instead of emission of luminous particles as has been generally supposed. Page 104~

Mr. Whewell is a Clergyman, fellow and tutor of Trinity College Cambridge (England): yet he seems a little biased by Sectarianism: Also author of Thoughts on the Study of Mathematics as a part of liberal education, noticed in Sketch Book No. 9, page 199.

Friday 11. Fair with broken clouds & occasional sun shine.

The weather remains cool and the apple trees and forest still retain their winter aspect. Formerly apple blossoms were generally seen by the middle of May, and sometimes earlier. An alteration has taken place in our climate from some cause, & what, we are not certain.

Saturday 12. Fair but breezy and southerly clouds~

Our farmers ~~are~~ planting their Indian corn, though without great expectations of a large crop. Several preceding years have taught them that it is an uncertain one. In general they procure seed of the earliest kind, some of which produced a pretty good crop last year but from the old kind it hardly repined. Querie: Will not the earlier seed become later by frequent planting in our climate? If the crop, which has hitherto been considered the great staple by our farmers, should fail, it will be a great drawback upon their already scanty profits; and notwithstanding the goodness of our alluvial soil, it is a fact, that our farmers are making little advance in point of property. A good pasturing farm in our hill towns is much more profitable a truth which will be acknowledged by all who have thoroughly examined the circumstances in relation to them~

Emancipation in the West-Indies

Mssrs. Thome and Kimball have recently published a Tour in the West Indies, from which it appears that the plan of the British Government to abolish Slavery is successful, in Antigua, and of the most gratifying character. Gov. Everett, who has perused the tour, says "It has given me new views of the practicability of emancipation. It has been effected in Antigua as appears from unquestionable authorities contained in the work of Messrs T & K, not merely without danger to the master, but without any sacrifice of his interest." The experiment if successful he had conducted, "would seal the fate of slavery throughout the civilized world." Will the southern States be usefully instructed in regard to their welfare, by this result? The Gov. thinks that the information collected in the Vol. will have a powerful effect on public opinion, not only in the Northern States but in the Slave holding states.

He [] grant that it may work out the freedom of the slaves in the U States

Sunday 13. Fair sun and pleasant day. Leaves of Lilacs appear

By Dr Williams our Physician
I am informed that a sort of Influenza is now prevalent in the circuit of his practice, and that in some instances nearly whole families are afflicted with it.

In the 2d Vol. of Dr Rush's Medical Enquiries page 250, we find a description of the symptoms of the disease as they appeared in 1789, 1790 & 1791, with an account of the weather which preceded it.

This disease, the Doct. says, passes with the utmost rapidity through a Country and affects the greatest number of people, in a given time, of any contagious disease in the world: and he says it is certainly a contagious disease as the measles or small pox, and exists independently of the sensible qualities of the air.

Is the Dr correct in this position?

Does not the fact of its rapid spread over a Country, prove that it is generated from atmospheric influence?

Monday 14 Fair & sunny day-

Some of our street maples, elms and the pears in my garden, this morning, exhibit a little greenness at the extremity of their limbs, and vegetation seems to be struggling into life. An increase of heat would soon put on a lively aspect and rouse our animal spirits from the torpor induced by the preceding cold season. I've sat comfortably with our windows up, in the afternoon.

Received a letter from Arthur, Paris, dated May 3, 1838. Acknowledges the receipt of one from me May 2d - mine was dated April 12th. Why so long on the passage? No mention of the arrival of the young Stebbins' who left here April 14th.

Tuesday 15 Fair and pretty warm day

Another steam Boat disaster

on the 21st of April the Boat Oronoko, off Princeton Miss. collapsed ~~its~~ one of their boilers, blew up and killed & drowned about 75 people!

What prudent man will venture himself on board of one of these volcanoes?

unless a thorough change is made in their management, or measures taken to remedy their defects. In the course of the present season, probably many 100s more lives will be lost on the western rivers. This mode of navigation, so important to the western States, will be less practiced, unless some remedy be provided. Will Congress still neglect to make some efforts for this end? Let something be done by the way of experiment, at least. Every commander guilty of neglect or ignorance of his duty, should be punished with severity. With the nature of a collapse I am not fully acquainted. Is it a sudden condensation of the steam in the boiler? And if so, what is the cause of this condensation? In case of such condensation the pressure on the exterior of the boiler will not exceed that of the atmosphere; and it is supposed the boiler is of sufficient strength to resist this pressure. Perhaps however when much heated it may become too flexible and yield inward; whence then the explosion which is said to take place at the time?

In much information on the bursting of boilers and the safe generation of Steam in these vessels, see Report of ~~from a~~ select Committee of Congress, May 18th 1832 with its accompanying Documents, in a thick pamphlet of 192 pages. The Committee reported a Bill, as the outlines of a law, for the better security of the lives of passengers on board of vessels propelled in whole or in part by steam; but it was not passed into an Act. The Report was called Wicklief's suppose Chairman of the Committee, (See sketch book No. 5, page 134) (15) this day Mr Joseph Clesson his wife, mother and nine children sat out for Illinois, by Buffalo, Cleveland to form a settlement in that State. An arduous journey with so large a family He left Deerfield in a covered waggon with two horses—intends to proceed to Cleveland & thence such route as circumstances shall dictate—probably by Chicago on Lake Michigan. The distance from Deerfield to that place, by the lake route, is upwards of 1600 miles + 200 to Shelbyville in Illinois.

Wednesday 16 Fair morn; after noon cloudy with a brisk southerly wind and the air soft vegetation pushing ahead.

Peaches are said to have blossomed.

Thursday 17 Cloudy morn; but fair most of the day with scattering clouds. Moderately warm. Plum blossoms out.

Friday 18 Cloudy and rainy in forenoon and broken clouds other part of the day. Air cool, at 3 P.M. the thermometer at 52°: on the 16th instant, as high as 80°. Why such variations?

Received a pamphlet by mail entitled
A Letter to Hon. Daniel Webster on the
Political affairs of the United States

By Marcellus

Printed at Philadelphia 1837.

Who the writer is I know not. but he seems to be one who understands his subject and advances his opinions without fear or favor. He boldly attacks many of the opinions of the times, in relation to our principle of government, and believes there are defects in our federal as well as state constitutions, which must be cured or ruin will follow. Many of

his opinions will be considered as anti-republican if not monarchical, by men who profess to be the friends of liberty and equal rights

But if we are to judge from the present state of affairs in the U States, we must conclude that something is wrong in the machine of government, or in its administration.

“We are, he says, “subjected to injustice and tyranny in a thousand ways.

For 30 years past, party spirit has produced a constant series of oppressions the triumphant party using its power to deprive the defeated party of its rights. The prescriptions inflicted on men in office for holding ~~politi~~ ~~cal~~ political principles different from the dominant party, are among the most detestable acts of tyranny.”

“One thing, he says, “is certain, that the election of the chief magistrate must be conducted in some way that shall effectually prevent intriguing for the office. If this came to be effected, the constitution

for securing a just administration and equal rights, is not worth a straw” // His opinions are worthy of consideration, and perhaps within a few years, they will not be viewed in so unfavorable a light as now~

He does not yet despair of the Republic, but thinks the hope of its continuance must be abandoned, unless the great men of our country will lay aside party strife, and unite in some vigorous effort to amend the defects of our Constitution. “The leading men must cease to expand their breath in speeches about banks and monopolies and metallic currency, and mount up to the source of our public evils. There only can ~~only~~ be applied the cathartic which shall be efficacious in restoring to the confederacy health and soundness.”

The hope that the election of a good President will remedy our evils, he thinks fallacious: the elevation would be temporary: for there are defects in our form of government, and errors in popular opinions, that no administration can

can rectify; and until such defects are amended, and such errors corrected, we shall continue to be a divided, distracted community; incessantly agitated by violent factions; each in its turn triumphing and opposing the other~

Saturday 19. Fair, but foggy morn & clear most of the day & pleasantly warm

Sunday 20 Fair and very pleasant day. Blossom of Pears begin to show in my garden.

Monday 21 Fair day, with warm southerly wind.

A Philadelphia paper of 16 May says a portion of the Wabash and Erie Canal is already finished, and notice is given that boats will commence running in the 16th instant between Fort Wayne & Logansport; the distance about 100 miles, through the very heart of the richest agricultural region in Indiana. That no less than 300 new buildings are going up in Quincy in Illinois a town on the Mississippi 125 miles above mouth of the Illinois River Tuesday

Tuesday 22. Cloudy and foggy morn
 last night a thunder shower ~~last night~~
 (moderate) Cherry blossoms appear.
 Clouds continued most of the day~
 From English papers we learn that
 in the course of last year, the Hudson Bay
 Company sent an exploring party to
 examine the northern coast of America,
 and that they have been successful. The party
 proceeded westward from the Mouth of
 McKenzies River, keeping along the coast
 of the Northern sea, to about the Long.
 of 157° W. in Lat 70° or 71° , which point had
 been previously reached by ships that
 had passed Behring Strait and Icy Cape. The north coast
 of American is now surveyed from Icy
 Cape to Cape Turnagain, eastward of
 Copper mine River, leaving but a part
 north of Hudson's Bay to explore. ~~And~~
 It is now ascertained that Greenland
 is separated from the American Con
 tinent, and that a sea extends from
 Baffin's Bay to Behrings straits. As the
 sea is generally filled with ice, with
 but occasional openings, the passage of
 fers no practicable route for ships
 The Country, cold as it is, furnishes a
 sort of support for some tribes of Indians.

Wednesday 23 Fair on the forenoon
 Cloudy & some rain afternoon~
 Apple trees begin to show the colours
 of their blossoms (yesterday) and a few
 blossoms are fully out. Plum trees are
 very full.

A mob in Philadelphia

On Wednesday last (16th instant) there
 was a large collection of people
 at the Pennsylvania Hall to attend
 a lecture from Mr Garrison on slavery
 At the close of the Lecture part of the
 audience became noisy. Several other
 lectures were delivered by females: viz.
 Ms. Chapman of Boston Mrs. Weld (formerly
 Grinke) Miss Mott and Kelley of
 N. York City. A mob began to throw
 missiles into the windows at the close: The next
 day, in the evening a crowd attacked
 the Hall and finally set it on fire
 & it was consumed. The mayor &
 Sheriff executed themselves to stop
 the disorder, but in vain. The En
 gines hastened to the spot, but the
 mob would not allow them to
 throw a drop of water upon the building, and
 it was suffered to burn. The frequency

of mobs within the United States
 is an alarming circumstance, and those
 who believe that our system of Govern-
 ment is defective will be confirmed in
 the opinions they have expressed of its
 failure. Legislatures may enact laws
 but they cannot enforce them when
 they become unpopular A mob may
 prostrate them at their idle. This
 once suffered serves as a stimulus to
 further atrocities, and where it will
 end, who can tell? I hold that laws
 legally enacted must be enforced so
 long as they are laws. But in this coun-
 try where is the power to enforce
 them? When unpopular the Posse Com-
 itatus will not do it. If we call on
 our militia they will not do it,
 and we have no other force to apply.
 It then comes to this: as soon as a
 law becomes unpopular the Legisla-
 ture must repeal it whether right or wrong.
 What then are our Legislatures but
 straws! This state of things is alarm-
 ing, and evinces that something is
 wrong in our system of Government.
 But let us not yet despair of a free
 government. Let us hope that some
 thing

thing will yet be found out to
 remedy the evils which now exist
 and that man in the exercise of his
 rights will be able to sustain a gov-
 ernment of the people without in-
 justice and infringements on the rights of
 individuals- We are at present
 a distracted people; but it is hoped
 experience will at length restrain
 us to reason, and open our eyes to
 our danger. We boast much of the
 knowledge of the people, but one
 this is certain, we have yet much
to learn- The cost of the Hall de-
 stroyed, is said to have been 40,000
 Dollars (perhaps too high an estimate
 a common error in such cases) ~~The~~
~~building was~~ and lately erected for a place
 of free discussion on all subjects. Its
 destruction by a mob, furnishes a
 fair proof that these discussions have
 no useful effect on men, who have
 laid aside their reasoning faculties,
 and are fast verging to a state of
 despotism- the only government
 under which they are calculated
 to exist. The ideal Republicanism in the heads
 of such men is preposterous, and

liberty a solecism. They might
 make good subjects of the Grand Seign
 or, but have no claims to freedom
 on the name of American Citizens. Hav
oc and spoil should be fixed upon
 there foreheads as a motto, and the
 sword held over them in terror~

Thursday 24. In the morning the
 sun appeared but was soon covered
 with clouds which continued most of the
 day. Apple blossoms nearly out.
 Yesterday the party of Indians who
 visited us last summer arrived with
 their wagons and baggage, and encamp
 ed on the Wappin stage road opposite to
 Beaver dam. The reception they met
 with here on their former visit, no doubt in
 duced them to return to our village, but
 probably they will attract less atten
 tion than in the former one.

They state that the late disturbances in
 Canada ~~have~~ prevented their return
 to St. Francis River, their former residence

Friday 25 Fair morn but most
 of the day cloudy & some rain;
 apple blossoms fully out, and
 also Cherries. Vegetation now
 comes forward with rapid steps

Saturday 26 Sun appeared in the morn
but shrouded most of the day.

Sunday 27. Fair and very
pleasant day. air moderate.

Our apple trees present abundance
of blossoms.

Monday 28 Fair and pleas
ant day; air moderately warm

Tuesday 29 Fair day, with scat
tering clouds; sometimes over cast Air
moderate.

Wednesday 30 Fair and pleasant
the foliage of the woods fast thickening
and vegetation appears favorable.

Mr Grennel our member of Con
gress sends me a Report of the Mi
litia Committee in Congress, May 11th
with a Bill more effectually to pro
vide for the national defence by
establishing a uniform militia through
out the U States.

The Bill proposes to divide the
militia into two classes, the active
& the general militia. The former
to be trained 6 days consecutively
each year, encamped in the field
and each man paid 150 cents per day, both

officers and soldiers, and the Secretary of War to furnish tents & camp equipages, wherever required by the States and territories.

Some good features are found in the bill, as well as some defective ones; it contains but the outlines, which the states are to fill up.

But I have no belief that the present Congress will adopt it or, in short, any other. The majority of the members do not see the importance of a proper national force; and while they are occupied with Banks and Scrabblings for office, nothing of great importance will be done. It is hoped however that by broaching the subject in Congress may at least, turn the attention of a few to its importance, and arrest disturb the sleep of others, now laboring under an incubus.

The ~~foree~~ number of the active militia, as ~~is~~ supposed by the Committee, will be 200,000. Half the number would be sufficient, while the general militia should be ready to furnish more when wanted. The

The Bill proposes that the annual appropriation of 200,000 dollars, by the act of April 1808, for the purpose of providing arms and military equipments for the whole body of the militia, shall be appropriated solely for the use and service of the active militia. This is wise!

The provision for forming the general class into Divisions & Brigades is an error. They should form Regiments only, and the Divisions & Brigades to be formed of the active class & all General officers confined to them. We have Generals by the Gross but very few officers under that title.

The terms Elite and Secondary, or Active and Reserved Militia, would be more appropriate.

In Massachusetts are absurd provisions in our Constitution, stands in the way of an efficient militia: the giving the choice of officers to the men. In choosing masters, men will select those who are the most lax in enforcing orders. The republican system will not answer for

soldiers. When man become such they resign their civil liberty into the hands of their officers, and form wheels and springs in the military machine. This machine though not in itself republican, is essential in all republican governments: it not only defends the country against foreign depredations but protects the rights of its citizens against lawless violence in time of peace; and when duly constructed it is in reality the posse comitatus, and cannot be dangerous to liberty, until it ceases to be worked by a republican power. From the want of this machine it is, that laws in the U. States are becoming no better than ropes of straw, and the civil rights of the citizens ~~be~~ being at the mercy of mobs. Let this machine remain a little longer in its present state, and law and order will be banished from the country, and the rights of individuals lost in anarchy & confusion.

Thursday 31. Fair and fine day;- moderately warm. The month of May closes with promising appearances of a plentiful season most of our crops having a good aspect: the crop of Rye now heading out looks well.

June, Friday 1st- Fair and pleasant; air moderately warm.

Letter from the Secretary of War Jany. 1838: Read in Congress and laid on the table; forwarded to me by Mr Grennell

The letter relates to the harbor of Provincetown, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Surveys have been made by triangulation with great care for a plan of the harbor and contiguous land, ~~and~~ numerous observations made on the tides & currents in the adjacent waters and the heights of the hills taken, and many soundings

The Lat of Cape Cod Lighthouse is stated at $42^{\circ}2'19''$ —Long. $70^{\circ}4'22\frac{1}{2}''$ from Paynes Almanac. The mag

netic variation 9°-20' west.

The meridian is laid down upon a chart in comparison with some of the sides of the principle triangles, by means of observations made with the Theodolite upon the Star Polarius, when in its greatest elongation east. The operations under the charge of James D. Graham, Maj. U.S. Top. Engineers.

A number of extensive tables accompany the Report containing accurate statements of the tides, Winds &c.

Four thousand copies of the Report and Chart are ordered to be printed~

The object of the surveys is to establish a naval station at the cape, for heavy ships. Query Will the Cape be a safe station against a specimen fleet Why may it not be as easily blockaded as an inland harbor?

A sprinkling of rain & some lightning & thunder towards sun set; when

I reced a letter from Arthur dated Paris May 18th in which he acknowledges the receipt of mine of the 2d & 3d instant, & 14th April by the Stebbins, (my 7 page letter) ~~All~~ ~~{—} are well~~ and also

Another of the 7th of May; through C.T. Arms at Danville. After the meeting of his Board of Comissioners on the 4th of June, he promises me a long letter. In his letter he says "All are well" meaning, I suppose, his company or Brigade, and that the Stebbins' have arrived at Pocumtuc in good health.

He advises all immigrants to come to Illinois by the Ohio, and St. Louis and says the Wabash and Erie Canal will not be finished for a long time.

Saturday 2 Cloudy morn
day Fair & brisk NW winds & cool
Last evening Ebenezer H. Williams died at his house; he had been unwell for sometime, and his mind occasionally damaged;- Aged 77 years; born in Roxbury, A son of Dr. Thomas Williams of that place, and the last of the descendants (in this town) of the Rev John Williams, the Indian Captive in 1704 being of the 4th generation
Sunday 3 Fair, but hazy part of day.
Last night rather cold. the effect of the NW wind yesterday~

Professor Hitchcock's Report	190
Little calsumious matter in our soil	195
Alluvial soils quality of	196
Marls Definition of	198
Proposed nomenclature of	ib
Eternity of the Universe	200
Parting with my resident family	204
Report of the western Rail road	207
Lecture on Slavery	209
Arrival of Steam Ship from England	210
Militia return of arms	213
Young's Discourse on Dr. Bowditch	215
Reese's Humbugs of N York	211
Prorogation of the Legislature	218
Steam Boat explosion at Cincinnati	219
Gov. Everett's Orations &c	222
Iowa Territory established	224
Death of Dr. John H. Steel	ib
Fire at Charlestown, S. Carolina	225
Whewell's treatise on astronomy &c	227
Emancipation in Antigua	231
Influenza, prevalence of	232
Another Steamboat explosion	233
Letter of Marcellus to Mr. Webster	236
Wabash & Erie Canal	240
N. coast of America traced	241
Mob at Philadelphia	242
New Militia bill in Congress	246
Survey of Cape Cod Harbor	250